

The Middlebury Campus

Vol. 106, No. 14

Thursday, February 14, 2008

Since 1905

Authorities search campus for Nicholas Garza '11

By Zamir Ahmed
MANAGING EDITOR

Police and search teams have suspended their search for Nicholas Garza '11 until Feb. 16 at the earliest, after their initial search for the missing first-year student on Monday and Tuesday failed to turn up significant clues regarding his disappearance. The 19-year-old Garza was reported missing on Feb. 10 by his mother, Natalie Garza, after she had not heard from him since Feb. 5.

The Vermont State Police (VSP) Search and Rescue Team is currently heading the search after arriving at the College on Monday afternoon, with between 95 and 100 people from numerous search and rescue teams from around Vermont, as well as search dogs, taking part in the search. According to Lt. Jocelyn Stohl, who commands the VSP Search and Rescue Team, the search for Garza is being conducted as a recovery and not a rescue.

"As a result of our evaluation that began yesterday afternoon into late last night, we determined and developed a search plan to search the campus area in hopes that we might find the subject," said Stohl at a press conference on Tuesday night. "We conducted that search today utilizing specialized resources and we did not turn up any clue information or any evidence of the subject."

With heavy snow expected in the next few days, searchers have

postponed their operations until Saturday, when it is believed the weather will allow them to continue the investigation. Officials said that the search would continue on in a particular area of the College, though they would not divulge that location.

Garza was last seen in Stewart Hall at what police have described as a "social gathering" on Feb. 5, during the College's February Break. Officials would not confirm if Garza consumed drugs or alcohol that night, though Taylor Smith '11, a friend of Garza's who also attended the party, confirmed that there was alcohol at the party in Stewart.

According to witnesses, Garza left the dorm at approximately 11:30 p.m. to presumably return to his dorm room

in Allen Hall. He was described as being underdressed for the weather, as he was wearing tennis shoes and his winter jacket was found in his room. Almost two feet of snow has fallen on Middlebury since Garza's disappearance, including a snowstorm that hit the area early Wednesday morning. Friends approached College officials after they could not locate Garza the following day, leading to an inquiry into his whereabouts conducted by the Department of Public Safety.

"A friend had communicated with his Commons Residential Advisor (CRA) his concerns that he hadn't seen Nick over the course of the previous day and that CRA

SEE OFFICIALS, PAGE 4



Courtesy



Andrew Ngeow

Rescue workers and dogs unsuccessfully searched for Garza in the snow around campus on Monday and Tuesday.

Queer Studies House approved

By Adam Dede
STAFF WRITER

Students and faculty packed into a small meeting room in Old Chapel on Jan. 28 to witness as the trepidatious members of Community Council entered and took their seats to hear a proposal to form a Queer Studies academic interest house. The proposal came from the Middlebury Open Queer Alliance (MOQA) board, and thanks to a passing vote from the council, the house is now expected to be a reality by fall of this year.

The meeting began with a presentation, covering four main topics, from MOQA board members Christine Bachman '09.5,

Molli Freeman-Lynde '08 and Ryan Tauriainen '08. Throughout the presentation, the three stressed the duality of the Queer Studies House, which will serve both as a

safe space and a center for the advancement of queer studies. They also argued for the academic legiti-

SEE COUNCIL, PAGE 4



Courtesy

MOQA board members made the Queer Studies House a reality on Jan. 29.

Mystery caller threatens students

By Cloe Sasha
STAFF WRITER

The Department of Public Safety notified the College community about harassing phone calls to students on campus on Jan. 19, in an e-mail was sent out asking for victims to report detailed information about the received calls. The caller's voice was identified as male.

Since Jan. 19, Public Safety has not publicly reported any information about the caller.

"The investigation is still open and we will look into any new information that comes in," wrote Telecommunications Manager and Technical Support Specialist Keith Bishop in an e-mail. "We would like to encourage the student body that in the event of a similar phone call, to hang up and report the call immediately to the Department of Public Safety."

The unidentified person primarily called females' dormitory

telephones and said aggressive and inappropriate sexual statements. He often spoke in a British accent.

Some reports indicate that the caller may know the people he has harassed. Sarah Elkhayat '09 received four phone calls between 10:20 and 10:30 a.m. on Jan. 19. During the first call, he asked if he was speaking to Sarah, and after she confirmed her identity, he began to verbally harass her.

"I am a First-Year Counselor, so I have two phone jacks in my room," said Elkhayat in an e-mail. "I unknowingly had my phone plugged into the incorrect jack, meaning that the phone he called me on was different from the number listed in the directory under my name. I have no idea where he got this number. I was really freaked out because he knew my name."

Other calls, however, make it seem as though the caller did not know the victims personally. The

caller contacted Ariel Ritchin '11 — a male student — assuming Ritchin was female. After Ritchin received a call on Jan. 19, he notified Public Safety.

"I'm a guy but my name may sound like a girl's, Ariel," wrote Ritchin in an e-mail. "I got a call at around nine this morning and hung up right away."

Also on Jan. 19, roommates Nora Hirozawa '11 and Abby Leathe '11 received inappropriate phone calls on both of their telephone lines.

"My phone rang very late last night/early this morning, so we didn't answer," wrote Hirozawa in an e-mail to Associate Dean of the College and Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah. "This timing would make sense if he were calling alphabetically. My roommate's phone rang at 11:40 a.m. this morning and the caller said [inappropriate language]. There was no background noise that we could distinguish."



Courtesy

FEBS BID FINAL FAREWELLS TO MIDDLEBURY

Members of the class of 2007.5 braved the cold February weather and graduated during the recent break, skiing down the Snow Bowl in style.



Starbucks out
Town dodges invasion
by global coffee giant,
page 6

Still my valentine
A profile of three long-
term Middlebury couples,
page 11

Eloquent Vistas
Photography exhibit
shows awe of American
landscape, page 15



college shorts

by Brian Fung, News Editor

Gunman kills two at LTC before herself

Three female students at Louisiana Technical College were fatally shot on Feb. 8 when, according to police, one of the three entered a crowded classroom and shot two in their desks before turning the weapon on herself.

The victims' identities have yet to be released. Baton Rouge police officers say they are still busy interviewing witnesses.

According to College officials, a recently installed intercom system helped the institution respond to the threat, which came less than two months after a double-homicide at Louisiana State University, and less than a year after the deadly Apr. 16 shootings at Virginia Tech.

— The Daily Reveille

Students practicing play with toy gun arrested

Officers from Ball State University's Department of Public Safety arrested two students on Feb. 10 who were rehearsing for an upcoming play involving a toy gun. Both students have since been released on \$1,000 bail, according to BSU's Daily News.

Administrators were alerted to the false threat when one student claimed that someone was wielding a firearm at the University's Bracken Library. Six Public Safety officers responded to a call for assistance.

"They saw one of the students pointing what appeared to be a gun at a student who was down on the ground," said Arthur Hafner, dean of University Libraries. "The sergeant yelled 'Drop the weapon,' which the student immediately did. It turns out the gun was a toy gun, but it looked real. The students said they were in a theatre department and they were rehearsing a play."

— The Daily News

Candidate for Colorado top job hurt by past sins

Bruce Benson, candidate for the presidency at Colorado University, faces an inquiry from students regarding his past criminal record. At issue are a DUI charge, as well as an accusation of impropriety by his ex-wife.

According to an affidavit uncovered by *The New York Times* during Benson's campaign for Colorado governor in 1994, Benson "harassed, taunted and threatened" his wife and engaged in an affair two years before he sought a divorce.

Benson also told his son that he planned to kill his ex-wife, according to the divorce records. Since then, he has apologized for his remarks.

— The Campus Press

William & Mary head resigns amid drama

President of the College of William and Mary Gene Nichol announced on Feb. 12 that he has stepped down from his position after the institution's Board of Visitors informed him that his contract will not be renewed in July.

Nichol had been dogged by intense criticism since October 2006 because of a controversial decision to remove a cross from the nation's oldest college chapel in an effort to make non-Christians feel more comfortable at the school.

"We are charged, as state actors, to respect and accommodate all religions, and to endorse none," wrote Nichol in a campus-wide e-mail. "The decision did no more," he said.

Students and faculty rallied in Nichol's support, arguing that the former president was being forced out of his position. Still, the board claimed in a statement that its decision regarding Nichol's contract was not made in response to "ideology or any single public controversy."

— Associated Press

The Mill home rises from the ashes

By Adam Dede
STAFF WRITER

Since last month's Inter-House Council (IHC) recommendation to strip The Mill of its residential status for fire safety violations, the members of the social house have been working to overturn the ruling and become more fire safety conscious. Currently, The Mill still holds residential status, but is under probation.

Immediately following the IHC ruling The Mill sent two letters to Dean of the College Tim Spears. One letter, from the residents of The Mill, apologized for fire safety violations and stated that all current residents of The Mill would move out, as they now have. The second letter, from The Mill as a general organization, stated that in exchange for continued residential status, all members of The Mill will take a fire safety course, and the new residents of The Mill will be subject to random fire safety checks. Also, because of The Mill's probation, they will be unable to host any parties involving alcohol until April 1.

When Spears took these letters to the IHC, the commitment of The Mill members impressed the council members, who decided to reverse their earlier ruling, provided The Mill follows fire safety guidelines closely and adheres to the alcohol probationary period.

Despite the alcohol limitation, new President of the Mill Xander Manshel '09 is excited for the future of the organization and feels that the social house will be able to make a fresh start and grow from this.

"We're viewing these sanctions as a way to move forward in a positive and exciting way," said Manshel. "Hosting non-alcoholic events can and will welcome students to the house that might otherwise be uncomfortable in such a setting. As an organization, we look forward to strengthening ties between The Mill, the other social houses, the College and the community at large."

The Mill plans to reach out to the town community with service projects, which they hope will involve not only The Mill mem-

bers, but students from across campus. Also in the works are small dinners and other quiet social events, which members of The Mill hope will set an example for the role of social houses beyond parties.

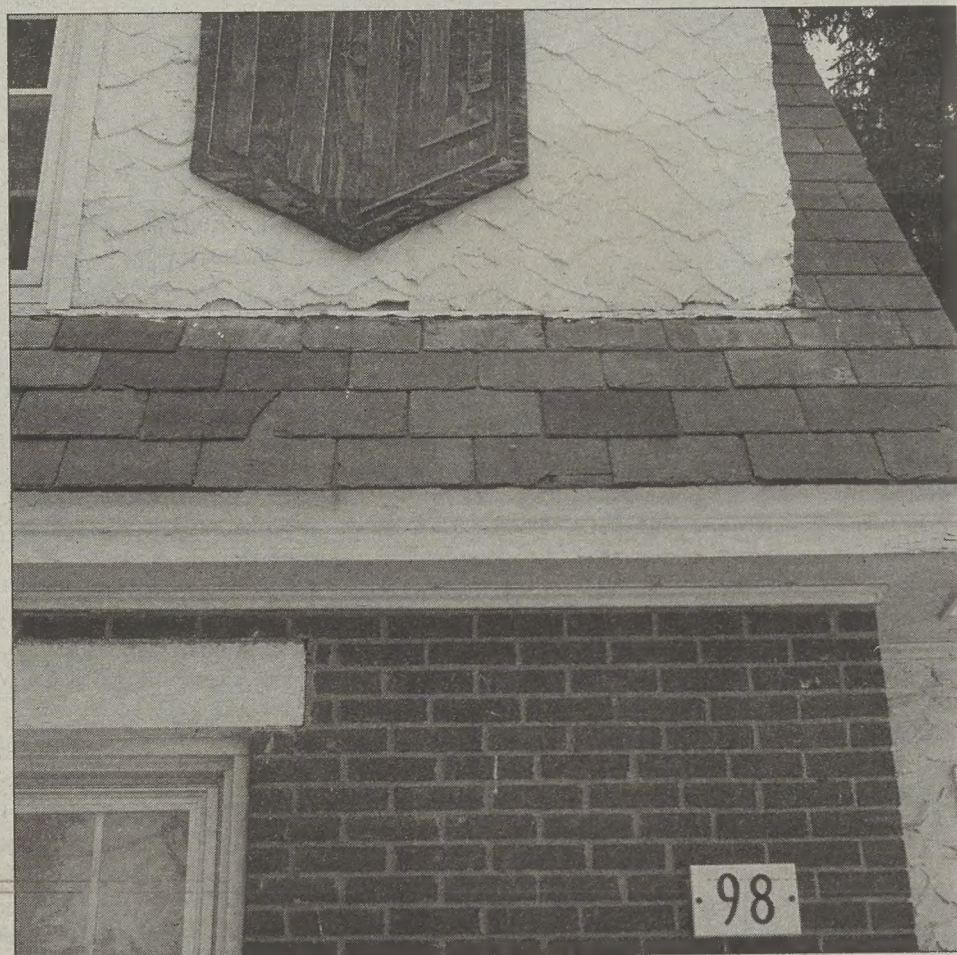
All of these plans are being made under new leadership at The Mill. Although those living at The Mill at the time of the fire are no longer residents, they will remain members of the organization.

"Keeping them involved is instrumental because, more than anybody, they understand the serious consequences that fire violations can pose," said Manshel. "They faced the frightening and very real possibility of what could have been."

The actual cause of the fire remains unexplained. No one was in the house at the time of the fire, and the Middlebury Fire Department has made no official statement as to the fire's cause.

Originally, it was thought that faulty wiring might be to blame, but the house's electrical system has since been checked to ensure its safety and no problem was discovered. But at this point, the cause of the fire is no longer the issue, and most are glad that nothing more than property was harmed.

"In the end, I'm just glad that no one got hurt and that The Mill continues to be a safe place to live and spend time," said Manshel.



Angela Evancie

Administrators allowed The Mill to retain its residence while placing them on probation.

College remains model for study abroad

By Michelle Constant
STAFF WRITER

Middlebury is not among a list of 15 high-profile colleges and universities being investigated by the New York Attorney General's Office for their study abroad programs. According to *The New York Times*, schools including Harvard, Brown, Columbia, Fordham, Manhattanville, American and Northwestern may be sacrificing the academic caliber of their students' study abroad experiences for less-expensive programs that offer kickback benefits to the schools.

Jeff Cason, the College's dean of International Programs, reported that Middlebury's renowned study abroad programs have never been investigated. The College operates 30 sites in 12 countries and sends 60 percent of its junior class abroad each year. Additionally, the College sent students to 91 different programs and universities in the last academic year.

"I think that steering students to particular programs based on financial incentives given by providers is simply a bad idea and usually unethical," wrote Cason in an e-mail. "That said, I'm not sure how widespread the practice is."

Last summer, *The New York Times* printed an article that described how some program providers offer college rebates, free or subsidized travel and other benefits. The schools being investigated may have affiliation agreements with study abroad providers. The goal of the New York Attorney General's office is to develop a code of conduct to govern the programs and the ties between colleges and study abroad providers. Schools in question are being asked to report who is

responsible for approving study abroad contracts, how they select specific programs and whether they are offered incentives to choose these programs.

In response to the original investigation last summer, the College placed a statement on the Study Abroad Web site explaining its policies.

"We decided that it would be best to be transparent about what we do," wrote Cason. "As we provide no financial incentives to other institutions that send students on our programs, we have nothing to hide, so we decided to clearly state our own policies and practices. Our programs compete with other

claims that it "takes very seriously the need to send students only to high-quality programs that satisfy individual students' academic needs."

According to Cason, rather than suggesting study abroad programs to students based on incentives and loans, the College has always recommended that students choose the best option for their particular academic interests.

"The criteria that we use when approving or denying an application for study abroad on a non-Middlebury program relate to academic quality and the experience that students have had on programs and at universities in previous years," wrote Cason.

When considering applications for programs that students from the College have not previously attended, the Office of International Programs and Off-Campus Study researches and presents information about these new programs in order to assist the committee in making a decision.

The overall cost of a program may lead students to personally choose one program over another. Cason wrote that often more expensive programs do not necessarily offer higher quality academics. The Programs Abroad Committee considers only academic quality, regardless of cost, of all study abroad programs when making decisions on applications.

According to Cason, the College has no financial interest in suggesting that students choose its own programs as opposed to those of other institutions. The College does not charge its own comprehensive fee rates to students studying abroad at any institution.

Our programs compete with other programs on their merits. — Jeffrey Cason

programs on their merits."

The College accepts over 150 students from other institutions at its schools abroad. According to Cason, the College does not provide financial benefits to other institutions for sending their students to its study abroad programs, and sets "rigorous standards for admission, which involve a higher level of language competence than many programs."

The College also does not receive any "volume discounts" for sending large numbers of students to specific study abroad programs, Cason noted. The College does recommend that students directly enroll to programs when possible, bypassing big providers, which can save students money.

The College's statement this summer, which still holds true, according to Cason,

Bookstore revamps pricing system

By Andrew Fuller
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury College Bookstore is launching a campaign to lower textbook prices and promote the recycling of textbooks by making used textbooks more widely available. The campaign will begin with the start of the spring semester and will coincide with the bookstore's continued use of Facebook.com and textbook promotions as ways to improve business while helping students.

The campaign "A Book is a Terrible Thing to Waste" aims to build on the bookstore's recent success in raising the ratio of used books sold to new books sold. "We have doubled our supply of used textbooks from 15 percent used textbook ratio to 30 percent in the last year," said Bookstore Manager Robert Jansen. "Our goal is to get to a 50 percent used to new ratio, one used book sold for every new book sold."

The bookstore seeks to improve the faculty adoption process so that students will get more money for the books they sell and pay less for the books they buy. When a faculty member notifies the bookstore on time that he or she will be reusing a textbook in a class for the next semester, the bookstore will buy that book at a higher price from students who already own it. The book will then be sold as used and at a lower price the next semester. Books that are not being reused by a professor may be purchased by one of the bookstore's wholesale companies at a lower price than the bookstore would pay if the book was being reused. According to Jansen, "used books save students 25 percent" while students selling books back to the bookstore that are being readopted will get "50 percent [of] what they paid."

One method that the bookstore will use to make used textbooks more available is to get more timely textbook adoption notices from the faculty. "If we can get our ratio of timely faculty adoptions up to say 85 percent to 100 percent, by our deadlines, this alone will make a meaningful difference in the lives of both current and future students," said Jansen.

The campaign will also focus on the environmental benefits of recycling books.

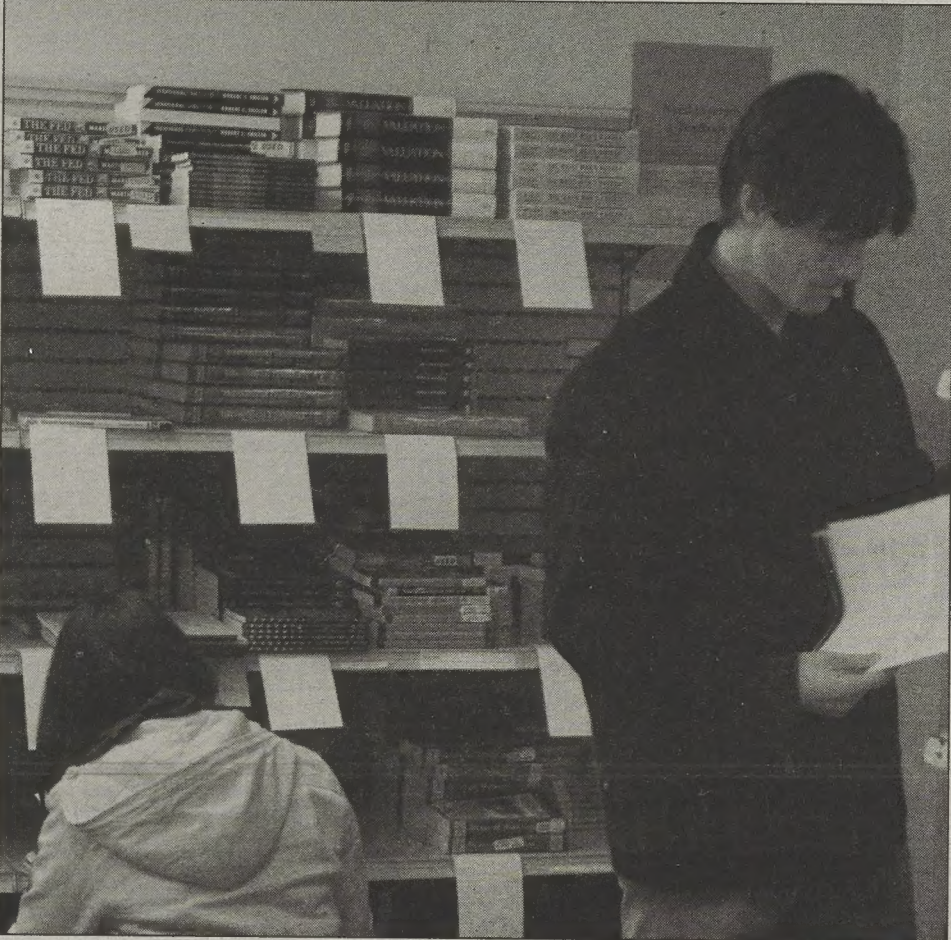
With the help of Campus Sustainability Coordinator Jack Byrne and facilities services, the bookstore will have blue recycling bins in dining and residence halls across campus at the end of each semester so that students can deposit in them books that they do not want or books that have no value to the bookstore.

Books that are found in the bins will be given to other students for free in the bookstore. "It is better for the majority of Middlebury students, the environment and the College when books are recycled here on campus," said Jansen. If one of the bookstore's wholesalers will pay for a book put in a blue bin, the money gained from the sale will be used to fund a bookstore promotional event.

The bookstore plans to continue using Facebook.com and promotional events to profitably help students, as they have in the

past. The "Friends of Middlebury College" Facebook.com event on May 27, 2007 gave 30 percent off on select clothing and gift items to Facebook friends of the bookstore. According to Jansen, "Sales increased 327 percent compared to the same period last year on the clothing and gift items, and profitability doubled even after accounting for the 30 percent discount."

The Fall Family Weekend 60 Second Shopping Spree was similarly profitable, increasing sales by 70 percent for the same period a year ago, [with] profitability increased 68 percent, after paying the cost of the shopping spree for the cost of the clothing," said Jansen. The bookstore will continue to have such promotions, said Jansen, partly because Facebook promotions advertise the bookstore well.



Andrew Ngoew

The new system would allow students to sell books back for 50 percent of the purchase price.

Forum sets global goals for education

By Michael Suen
STAFF WRITER

From Jan. 22 to 24, the Connect-Ed Conference on Global Education was held in Monterey, California. Co-hosted by Middlebury College and the Monterey Institute of International Studies (MIIS), the conference saw more than 400 leaders — representing universities, governments, corporations, foundations and NGOs from 26 countries — assemble to explore the issues surrounding education in an increasingly global and technologically advanced world.

"Everyone is talking about globalization. Everyone is talking about global education," said Michael Geisler, vice president for Language Schools, Study Abroad, and Graduate Schools, in a phone interview. "What does that mean? What does that look like? What are the costs and benefits? What are some things that get added and what get lost in the shuffle? These are all issues we must consider."

The three-day conference included a series of 25 panel presentations, more than 90 presenters, two roundtable discussions with 12 senior experts and a facilitated session of open dialogue.

The idea for the conference was first envisioned in 2005, when the College signed an affiliation agreement with MIIS, signaling a partnership in expanding their distinctive, internationally oriented academic programs such as languages. It was then that President of the College Ronald D. Leibowitz, MIIS President Clara Yu, and Geisler conceived of an event that could further "engender a dialogue that contributes to an international curriculum."

The Connect-Ed Conference was opened by keynote speakers Leibowitz, Yu and Scott McNealy, chairman of the Board of Directors at Sun Microsystems, the company responsible for the popular software platform Java. According to Geisler, Leibowitz and Yu spoke of the necessity to place all forms of academic study in an internationally mindful framework.

"How do we migrate around the globe and ensure that communication doesn't break down?" said Geisler. "There are very different expectations about how we learn and teach. Both [Leibowitz and Yu] put [their opening speeches] in that context — the synergy between Middlebury and Monterey. What they could bring, very few other schools could bring. We could use our network of global partners to initiate dialogue."

Kevin Hurley, assistant dean and another Connect-Ed organizer, identified recurring themes of the conference as being: innovation in education, language and culture, educational mobility, international higher education competitiveness, educating the next generation and transnational issues.

According to Lisa Crawford Watson, Monterey Institute's director of Institutional Advancement, the speeches by Leibowitz, Yu and McNealy were "enthusiastically received."

"They were incredibly dynamic speakers that were very engaging, bright and informed," she said. "This has kicked off a very important inaugural event with the level of energy and intelligence we would like it to."

Despite the apparent success of the global education conference and other recent collaborative efforts, it is by no means an indication that a second conference will take place. According to Geisler, the notion is appealing, but also daunting.

"So far, the signs seem to indicate that we have been successful," he said. "But we'll have to see whether we can find external funding and support from foundations to continue in the years to follow."

SNG to Focus the Nation on climate change

By Samantha Michaels
STAFF WRITER

In an effort to expand the College's environmental initiatives, students met with a Vermont State Climate Panel on Jan. 21 in McCardell Bicentennial Hall to discuss new policies and opportunities for activism. The dialogue was part of Focus the Nation, a teach-in movement across America to promote global warming solutions. Guests at the event included Vermont State Representative Steven Maier, as well as local activists Laura Asermily and Ron Slabaugh.

According to Ben Wessel '11, the dialogue had a very specific purpose. "[Sunday Night Group] SNG has been talking about conquering the campus, but I'd love it if the student body would turn outward into the town, the state of Vermont and Addison County with climate activism and environmental policy," said Wessel.

Wessel's desire was realized within minutes of the Jan. 21 discussion, as Maier, a Middlebury resident and six-year state legislator, began by sharing a recent history of environmental legislation in Vermont. Next, Asermily, a member of the Middlebury Area Global Warming Action Committee, spoke of driving efficiency and the need to promote alternate forms of transportation and fuel in the local community.

Slabaugh, of the Addison County Organization Network (ACORN), then closed with warning of an energy crisis, explaining that his nascent renewable energy cooperative is promoting locally-made bio-fuels as well as a source for locally-generated electricity.

With the presentations completed, students expressed a strong desire to aid the speakers in their efforts. Maier proposed an internship project to create an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions at the College, and Asermily suggested that students help coordinate environmental committees at nearby high schools.

Maier also welcomed students to join her in endeavors to expand ACTR shuttle services, make Middlebury more pedestrian-friendly and enhance driver education programs, while further inviting students to design energy-efficiency workshops as part of a Green Energy Exposition — which comes to the College on March 1.

It is likely that SNG will pursue these invitations. As explained by Wessel, the student organization has already forged a relationship with Aurora School, an alternative elementary school in town, working with a small group of students in an "Anti-Global Warming Group" to create reusable shopping bags for the community. Made from old, ripped or donated parachute material, the bags will be compactible and portable — small enough to fit effortlessly inside a purse or jacket.

Wessel also expects that SNG will aid Asermily in the upcoming Green Energy Exposition, and he hopes to contact Slabaugh about future ACORN projects.

"People forget that we're in a place, like

in a town and in a county and in a state," said Wessel. "It's not just a bubble. We've done so much stuff at the College that it feels like we have no one to rebel against here in terms of environmental stuff. It's now a matter of finding bigger foes and tougher fights."

Bonnie Frye Hemphill '08, a member of SNG who attended the Jan. 21 discussion, reiterated the need to reach out and link environmental activism on all levels. In an e-mail interview, she wrote that Focus the Nation encourages this connection. "It's about democracy, it's about ordinary folks

**It's not just a bubble.
It's now a matter of
finding bigger foes
and tougher fights.**

— Ben Wessel '11

from all walks of life realizing we have a lot to gain — together — in stepping up against global warming and for a clean-energy future," she wrote.

The student meeting with the Vermont State Climate Panel successfully began to narrow the gap between climate initiatives of the College and wider community. Hemphill expressed her hope that this important relationship continues to grow.

"Locals have a lot of perspective and expertise that we lack, while we've got energy and academic resources to offer," she wrote. "Working together will make a far stronger local movement for adapting climate change, and [the Jan. 21] presentation was the first step to bridging campus and town. That said, it's only a first step, and everyone's excited to build that connection much further."

Officials reclassify Garza search efforts as 'recovery'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

called Public Safety and passed that concern on," said Dean of the College Tim Spears at a press conference on Feb. 12. "Public Safety went into Allen and checked his room. At that point, he encountered the friend who had passed the inquiry on, and through a series of exchanges there, the Public Safety officer came to understand that it was very likely that Nick had left campus with other students."

At the time, it was speculated that Garza had left the campus for a friend's cabin in New Hampshire. However, Spears commented that Public Safety followed up with the students who had stayed at the cabin, who confirmed that Garza had not been with them.

Garza's mother became concerned about her son's whereabouts after neither she nor Garza's younger brother heard from Nicholas Garza for a couple of days. Natalie Garza, who said she is in contact with Nicholas almost every day through e-mail or text messages, then contacted College officials with the hopes of locating her son.

"I was on the phone first thing Saturday morning to tell [the Department of Public Safety] that I was extremely worried about Nick," she said. "I wanted someone to go into his room to see if he was there or if there was anything suspicious that was in the room."

Natalie Garza filed a missing persons report with the Middlebury Police Department (MPD) on Feb. 10. MPD, with the assistance of the Department of Public Safety and the Middlebury Fire Department, searched for Garza early Monday afternoon, using poles to probe the snow in the area around McCullough Lawn before darkness forced searchers to suspend their operations.

Natalie Garza arrived at the College late Monday, along with other family members, to assist with the investigation.

Spears alerted the College community of Garza's disappearance in an e-mail on Feb. 11, asking that anyone with information regarding Garza's whereabouts notify authorities. Spears said that the College did not send out an e-mail notification earlier because of the possibility that Garza had left campus with friends and would return when the spring semester started on Feb. 11.

"One of the important points in sort of

thinking through where Nick may be was the start of spring classes," said Spears. "Our students, during these kinds of breaks, will leave campus and come back, and some will come back at the last minute, and so we were all sort of hoping that Nick would show up to his morning classes. When he didn't, I sent out, along with Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah, an e-mail asking for information."

Though officials left open the possibility that Garza had gone off-campus to visit friends, Garza's mother doubted that he had any intention on leaving, having just returned from a trip to Manhattan to visit relatives.

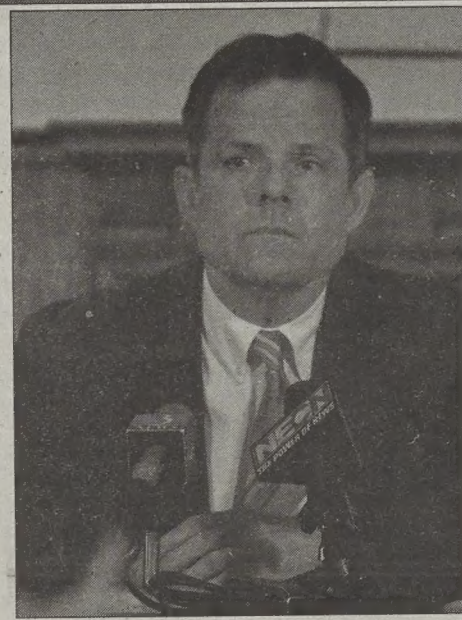
"Nick was not going anywhere," said Natalie Garza at a press conference on Feb. 12. "He knew he was going to spend the break there. He was kind of looking forward to the time of having the room alone and he had a lot of reading to do. So I had no indication that he had plans to leave anywhere and if he would have left, I would have received a text. He just would not have left without alerting us."

According to Tom Scanlon, spokesman for the Middlebury Police Department, there is no evidence of foul play in Garza's disappearance. He noted that Garza has not made any financial transactions on his bank card and has not used his cell phone since the night of his disappearance. The College's Library and Information Services also accessed Garza's College e-mail account in order to track his communications, revealing that Garza had not sent any e-mails since the night of Feb. 5. As part of their investigation, authorities have removed several items from Garza's dorm room, including his laptop computer.

Natalie Garza said her son had no history of mental illness and she had no reason to believe he was unhappy at Middlebury and wanted to leave.

"He loved Middlebury. That was his top college to come to," she said. "He loved it here, he loved the environment. He loved this town."

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz, who had been in California on a fundraising trip and had planned on staying for this week's Board of Trustees meeting at the Monterey Institute, cut short his trip and returned to the College on Tuesday. Friends and other concerned students also gathered



Andrew Ngoew

Searchers look in snowy areas across campus in an effort to locate Garza on Feb. 11 (top). Dean of the College Tim Spears (right) and Natalie Garza (left) speak to the media on Feb. 12.

in Chateau on Feb. 12 to meet with counselors and members of the Office of the Chaplain, who offered support and help to cope with the situation.

Investigators have asked that Middlebury property owners check their land and any outlying buildings such as garages and sheds

to aid the search for Garza. Those with useful information about Garza or his whereabouts have been asked to contact the College's Department of Public Safety at 802-443-5911 or the Middlebury Police Department at 802-388-3191.

Additional reporting by Scott Greene.

Council approves new academic interest house

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macy of the proposal, noting senior theses on queer issues and the Queer Studies track within the Women's and Gender Studies program.

According to the MOQA presentation and faculty members in attendance, queer studies is a discipline that questions the binary assumptions upon which contemporary society and its self-image is built.

"It challenges all the naturalized essentialist notions of gender and identity, so it is actually not an identity concept at all," said Associate Professor of German Roman Graf, who spoke on behalf of the MOQA board. "Queer studies challenges identity all the time, and at the same time it acknowledges that you have an identity and that you identify as something, but you have to question it all the time."

Presenters also made it clear that queer studies is not the same thing as women's and gender studies, and that it is not limited to gay and lesbian studies.

"What's different about queer studies specifically is that women's and gender studies is about men and women and then queer studies takes that and runs with it," said Bachman. "Queer studies really looks at how binaries are constructed and sort of destabilizes the very organizing principles of women's studies and gender studies."

The Queer Studies House will play host

to lectures, screenings and workshops designed to draw in as many members of the Campus community as possible. The proposed programming outline also includes workshops for both fall and February first year orientation. Supporters of the proposal stated that they hope to base these workshops on the deliberative dialogues already held as part of first-year orientation.

The house will also provide a venue for senior thesis presentations. According to the MOQA board there are many senior theses written each year on queer theory, but because there is no queer studies major these theses do not get as much recognition as theses in other areas of study.

Queer Studies challenges all the naturalized essentialist notions of gender and identity. —Roman Graf

"I know a lot of other departments have theses presentations so we would love to see this happen at the Queer Studies House," said Freeman-Lynde.

Having already faced stiff opposition to residential status from many in the Student Government Association (SGA) Senate, the MOQA board members were aware that

their arguments for residency would be the deciding factor for the proposal.

"We are really trying to go step by step and follow the rules to get an academic interest house," said Freeman-Lynde.

Supporters of the Queer Studies House hope that having a central location dedicated to queer studies will help to inspire more activity and dialogue around queer issues.

"The idea is that when people live together and there is interest and energy around their shared interest there is going to be more support dedicated to creating programming and outreach to the community," said Bachman, who went on to stress that beyond its academic functions, the house

will serve as the only truly gender neutral space on campus.

Residency will be given to students based on their academic interest

as judged by a diverse panel of both students and faculty members.

"Because [residency panels] come from different facets of the community it's not going to be a group of five close friends," said Tauriainen. "Most likely it's going to be five very diverse people."

They also stressed that gender and sex-

ual identity will not be factors in deciding residency.

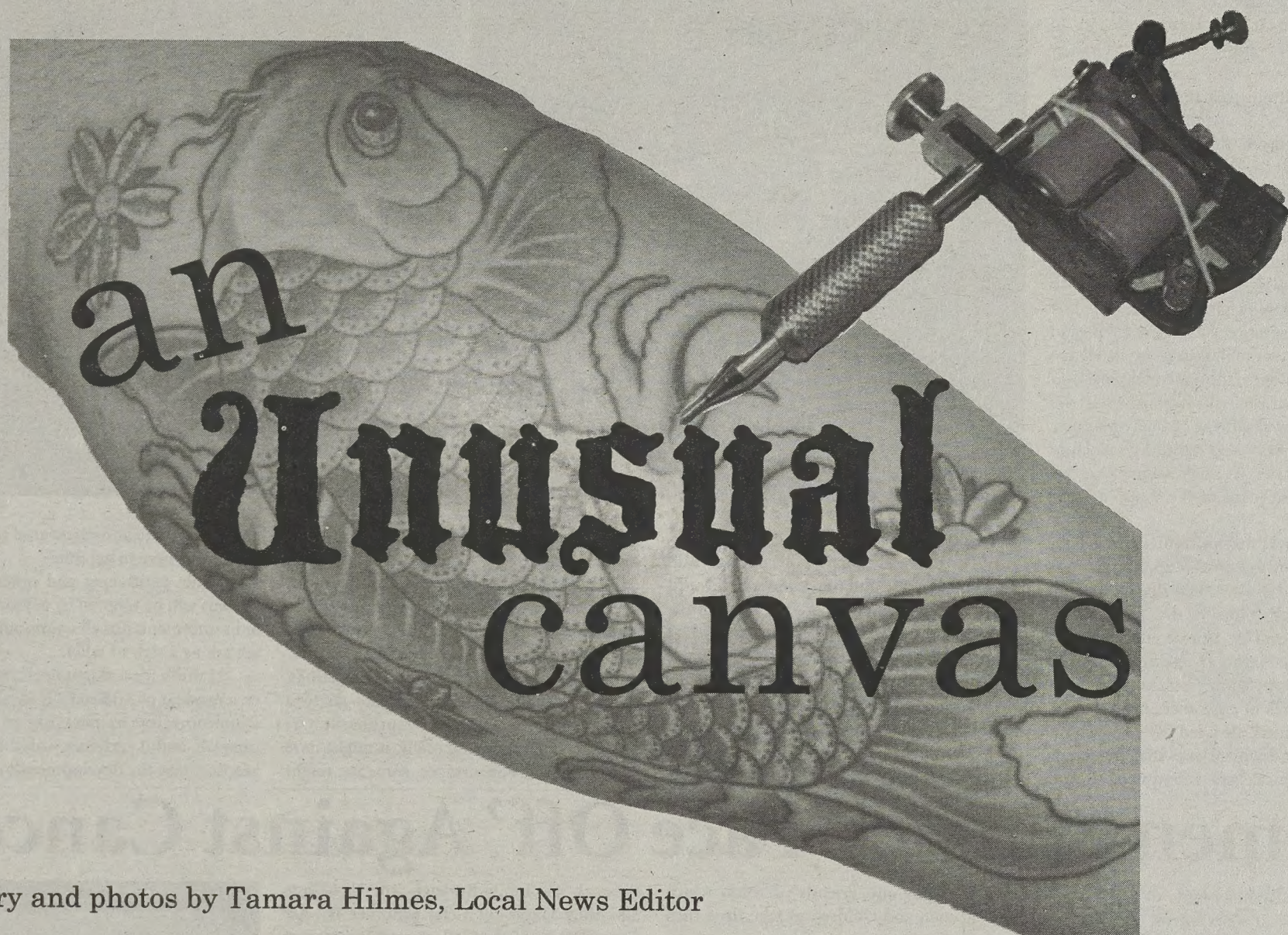
Research compiled by Tauriainen also gave the Community Council insight into the queer studies options — both residential and nonresidential — at other colleges.

Despite the presentation and Tauriainen's research, SGA President Max Nardini '08 still had deep misgivings about the residential aspect of the house.

"I've come up against flak for being both a homosexual and someone who is against the residential nature of this proposal," said Nardini. "One term that got thrown in my direction was 'self-hating gay,' and my fear is that the sort of 'with us or against us' mentality that exists in some facets of the gay community would negatively impact the residential aspect of this house. At the end of the day, are we going to create a division between queers and queer-friendly individuals who either live in the house or support its residential aspect and the queers and queer-friendly individuals who do not? To talk about one gay 'community' on this campus is highly inaccurate."

Council representative Peyton Coles '08, who joined Nardini as one of four votes against the proposal, shared his view that although a space for queer studies is a great idea, its residential aspect could be an extremely divisive issue on campus.

The proposal eventually passed nine to four with one abstention.



story and photos by Tamara Hilmes, Local News Editor



It is Valentine's Day and couples all over the world are looking for ways to express their love for one another. Some choose flowers, others candy, but some opt for matching tattoos. "Bald Bill" Henshaw, the owner of Yankee Tattoo at 198 Pearl Street in Burlington, says people come in all the time to get tattoos with their loved ones.

"Sure, people come in for that all the time," said Henshaw. "A lot of people think it's bad luck, but I say that's crap." Henshaw, an award-winning tattoo artist and member of the National Tattoo Association since 1984, has many tattoos as one might expect, considering his trade, but only the name of one lady appears permanently inked onto his skin — "Mom."

"Almost everybody who has tattoos has at least one dedicated to their loved ones," Henshaw said. "I never did get one except 'Mom.' I was going to get my daughter's name at one point, but I never ended up doing it."

Henshaw does not look like the average business owner on the surface. The 55-year-old artist has a completely bald head, a long grey beard, and — oh yeah, tattoos snaking up both of his arms.

"When I was 30 years old," began Henshaw, "I had a bald spot and people thought I was 40. This is also when I began my job at the phone company as a staff artist, and because I was working with people, I finally shaved off my long hair and have never gone back. Since then, it has become very well known — it's my trademark. If you were to walk into any tattoo shop across the country and ask about Bald Bill, they would say, 'oh yeah, I know Bald Bill.'"

Henshaw is known throughout the nation for more than just his bald head, given the Burlington-based tattoo artist's participation in over 150 tattoo conventions in 25 different states as well as in Canada and Puerto Rico. Henshaw gained renown in the tattoo world well before he decided to settle down in Vermont to start his own parlor.

"After I quit my job at the phone company," said Henshaw, "I went on the road and followed the tattoo circuits. There used to be only one to two a year, but now they have one every weekend."

At these conventions, Henshaw learned the art of professional tattooing by watching "the masters" and attending various seminars. It was here at these conventions that he learned the sterilization procedures that are vital in the success of a professional tattoo artist.

We work on a pliable surface that moves — we work on skin.

— Bald Bill Henshaw

"Sterilization and procedures to prevent cross-contamination are the first thing a tattoo artist needs to know," said Henshaw. "I'm working with blood every day, and it's extremely important to keep both myself and my customers safe. I've tattooed FBI agents and professional con men. I've tattooed millionaires and homeless people as well as doctors, lawyers and nurses. I even have a reputation with the nurses for being even cleaner than some of them with my procedures."

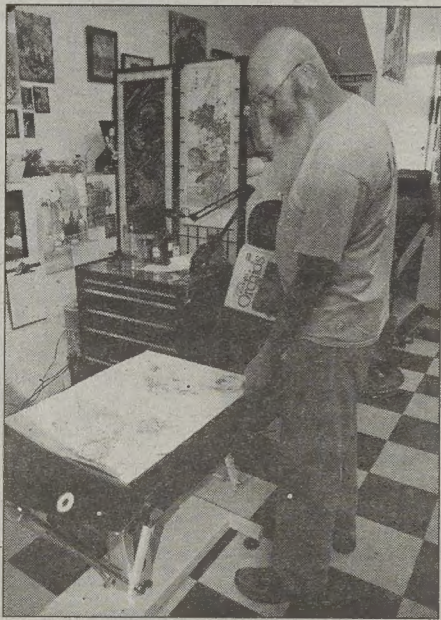
After attending convention after convention and attaining his license in three different states, Henshaw began to look to settle down and start his own business. In 1996, when the state of Vermont legalized tattooing, Henshaw decided the time was right, and Yankee Tattoo was soon up and running in its current location on Pearl Street, in the heart of downtown Burlington.

"I decided on Vermont because there weren't really any professional tattoo artists in the area at the time," said Henshaw. "Most were just working off their kitchen tables. I could have started up in Philadelphia, but you don't open a tattoo parlor where one has been in business already for 30 years unless you want to get both of your arms broken." Henshaw admitted that competition in Vermont has increased since 1996, but with Yankee Tattoo in business for 11 years in the same location, Henshaw is not worried about upstarts.

"We can handle a little bit of competition," Henshaw said. "We're going on 12 years now, and I have two guys who have been working for me for 10 years, which is unusual for this industry. At least one shop comes and goes every year. People think it's really easy, but really, it's not that easy. Just because you are educated doesn't mean that you can tattoo."

The art of tattooing, as Henshaw explained, is really quite technical. Henshaw uses reciprocating tattoo machines, with needles that go in and out at a rate of 1,000-3,000 times a minute. The needles are essentially groups of pens that act as miniature bilge pumps. The tube and needle are dipped in ink, and the ink-covered needle is then inserted into the skin, where the ink is absorbed according to the design that has either been stenciled or drawn on by hand.

"When I worked at the phone company," said Henshaw, "and people found out that I also tattooed, they would say, 'oh, you're a tattoo artist.' But in actuality, tattooing is a lot harder than being a commercial



continued on page 7 . . .

Support by Slapshot
Athletes compete to fund cancer patient support, page 6



Bye, Bye'Bucks
Coffee corporation backs out of proposal, page 6

No Cross-Training Required
Sew-a-Thon provides dresses to Zambians, page 7



Coffee corp. rethinks Middlebury franchise

By Tamara Hilmes
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

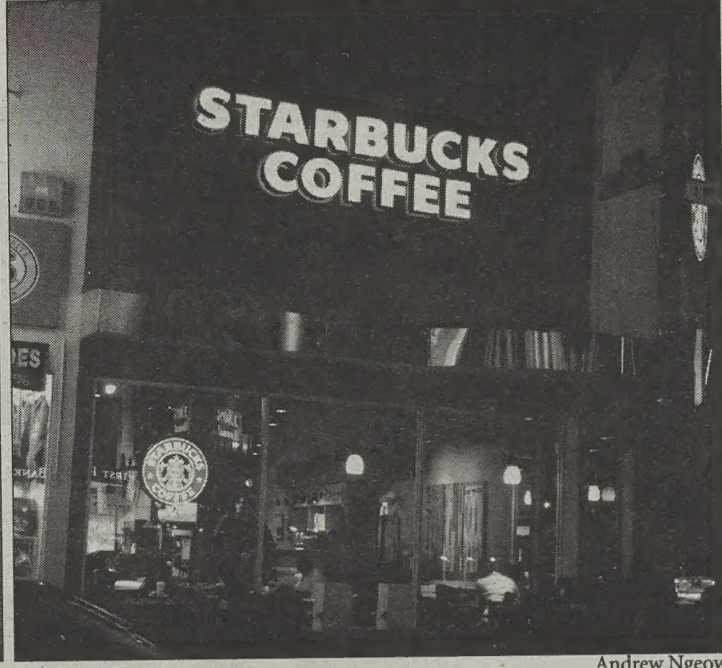
Middlebury residents craving Grande Mocha Frappacinos and gingerbread lattes will have to continue to make the trek to Burlington to get their fix. At the end of January, the Starbucks corporation announced that it would not, in fact, be placing one of its franchises in Middlebury.

In a letter written to the Middlebury Planning Office, Christopher Hunt, one of the two men who originally proposed the plan to bring the global coffee corporation to the Centre shopping plaza announced, "the Starbucks Corporation has entered a period of reorganization in the wake of its disappointing financial performance this past year ... as part of their process [Starbucks] has decided to halt development of many planned, yet un-built stores." As a result, Myron Hunt Inc. has withdrawn its application to amend the development plans of the shopping center.

The plan was first introduced in February of 2007, but the official application was not filed until August. When the application was placed on the table for discussion at the Oct. 22 public hearing, uproar ensued within the community. Petitions were drawn up and placed in various businesses around town — the signatures of customers loyal to Carol's Hungry Mind Café filled five pages alone. With the recent financial woes that have come down on the local café, resentment toward



Angela Evancie



Andrew Ngoew

the addition of Starbucks along Rt. 7 grew.

"I'm definitely for it not coming," said David Holter '11. "I'm much more in favor of locally rather than commercially-based businesses. We have nothing but chain stores at home — it was nice to be here and experience a more community feel, which the locally owned places provide. I don't think Starbucks would be as willing to display local artwork, for instance."

Even without the arrival of Starbucks in

Middlebury, the fate of Carol's Hungry Mind is still in question.

"We are still toying around with a lot of ideas," said John Melanson, owner of Carol's. "We have not yet come to any definitive decision. Starbucks never really threatened me, though. People gather here for meetings, which is something they wouldn't go to a Starbucks for. It would have primarily targeted the commuters. Actually, it might have been a benefit. For instance, someone might

have gone there and discovered the latte, and then come here to get one."

While petitioners and other concerned citizens will be relieved by Myron Hunt Inc.'s announcement, not all community members are taking a sigh of relief.

"I think it's unfortunate," said Joel Miller, a resident of Addison. "It would have been a welcome replacement for an abandoned carwash, and it certainly would have been in keeping with the development in that area."

Women athletes 'Face Off' Against Cancer

By Kelly Janis
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

When Liz Cronin was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1999, her teammates on the Middlebury Otters were not content to relegate the matter to the figurative sidelines. Members of the women's community hockey team decided to transfer their energy from the puck to a cause which now affected them more poignantly than ever.

"When Liz was in the recovery phase and ready to play again, she was sitting on the bench with her bald head, and somebody was saying, 'oh, we should have a tournament. We always go to tournaments. We should have our own tournament,'" explained Chris Newkirk, a player on the Otters' sister team and co-host, the Middlebury Mystix, who became involved with the tournament three years ago. "And somebody else said, 'well, let's make it for breast cancer and support Liz.' And it just kind of snowballed from there."

Cronin, still an avid hockey player, was front and center at the Ninth Annual "Face Off Against Breast Cancer," held on Jan. 26 and 27 at the Howard Brush Memorial Sports Center in Middlebury. Teams from across the state — including the Burlington Ice Breakers, Rutland Cutting Edge, the Burlington Green Mountain Thunder, the Waterbury Wicked, the Morrisville Motley Crew and the Manchester Rusty Blades — joined the local women in games in both the competitive and recreational divisions, as well as a newly

added "Family and Friends" division which allowed men and children to take their turn on the ice.

This year's tournament emblemized the extent to which the undertaking has blossomed as the years have elapsed.

"The first year, we raised \$2,000," Cronin said. "Last year, we raised \$20,000. This year, we're going to raise even more."

Indeed, by Sunday evening, organizers had already exceeded their fundraising goal of \$25,000, raking in an estimated \$26,105.

"I'm amazed that it's come this far," Cronin said.

Newkirk attributes much of the tournament's success to the widespread relevance of the cause it supports.

"Breast cancer touches everybody," she said. "It's so endemic. So many people have it now. We have survivors on our own team."

This being the case, while members of other teams may be cast as the Otters' and Mystix's opponents on the ice, they lend support and enthusiasm to their efforts off of it.

"It's nice to get to play and support a really nice cause at the same time," said Amy Jamieson, captain of the Waterbury Wicked, the reigning champion in the recreational division. "There's certainly a spirit of competitiveness, but it's a healthy one. We're all here to have fun."

Joining in the fun is a strong contingent of members of the College community. The Otters and Mystix rosters include Hannah

Babcock '09, Emily Burleigh '10, Ali Glassie '08, Abby Mayer '09, Celey Schumer '09, Associate Dean of the College and Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah, Public Safety officer Amy Buck, Health Center staff nurse Sally Carver, Assistant Director for Career Services Office Marketing and Events Manager Tracy Himmel Isham, Marketing Manager of the Mahaney Center for the Arts Liza Sacheli Lloyd, Associate Director for International Admissions Barbara Marlow and Field House Associate Equipment Manager Shelley Payne.

A number of these individuals and their fans turned out for the weekend event, whose proceeds benefit the Cancer Patient Support Program — a free and comprehensive support service established by cancer survivors and others affected by the disease in order to provide psychological and nutritional counseling, educational resources and referrals to other agencies to cancer patients across the state of Vermont.

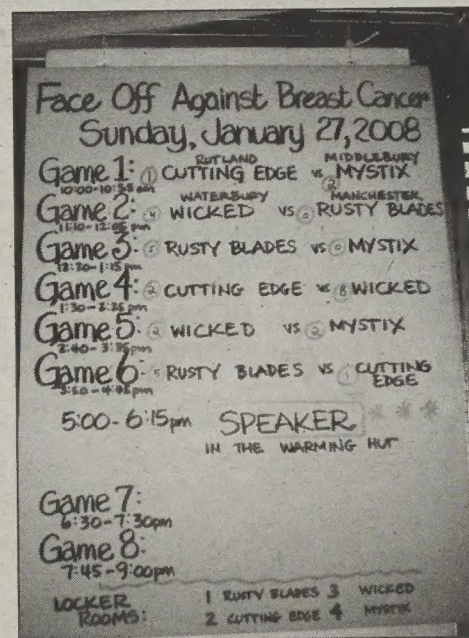
Guest speaker Carol Vallett, Dean of Continuing Education at the University of Vermont, attested personally to the value of the program.

"I remember last year, about this time, reading an article in the *Burlington Free Press* about the hockey tournament, and about Liz's story, and thinking two things," Vallett said. "The first was that I had no idea there were so many women who played hockey — enough that you could actually have a tournament. A two day tournament! And the other was, another person with breast cancer. Every time you pick up the paper, there's an article about someone with breast cancer. It's like, what, does everyone have this? And then about two weeks later, during the Valentine's snowstorm, I got a phone call saying, 'you know the biopsy on that lump? Well, it's cancer.' The university was closed that day, and I was home. And I thought, my life is never going to be the same. And it was true."

Vallett recalled her first visit to a surgical oncologist, during which she received a shawl, a book on becoming a cancer survivor and a red folder containing material from the Cancer Patient Support Program. She placed the latter item aside.

"I thought, I'm really strong, and I'm not going to use those services," Vallett said. "I'm not going to worry about that."

Sixty-eight visits to Fletcher Allen Health Care and seven weeks of radiation later, Vallett's son commented that she was no longer herself. It was then that she changed her mind,



Kelly Janis

A schedule of games welcomes spectators.

and took the folder off the shelf.

"It's one thing to be treated physically," Vallett said. "But it's another thing to learn how to heal and move on from there."

Cronin was moved by Vallett's story. "To have people come and talk about the fact that they use this fund that we put money towards is amazing," she said.

The program also offers an emergency fund for patients in financial crisis as a result of their illness. Such is a circumstance which, according to Vallett, is unfortunately common. For those on a fixed income, or without health insurance or a stable job, paying for childcare, co-pays and trips to treatment amid staggering gas prices can be too much to endure.

"They'll recover," Vallett said. "They'll get better. But they can't lose their home in the meantime."

It is with this fact in mind that the program doled out approximately \$12,000 to patients in the month of December alone.

"What we're doing is creating a safety net for people who have no other resource," said the Cancer Patient Support Program's Vice President for Development Loretta Muss. "You have no idea what this tournament means to cancer patients in your state."

Monetary donations associated with the tournament are still being accepted. Contributions may be mailed to the organization's secretary, Cathy Chase, at 5 Ledgewood Court, Middlebury, Vt., 05753.



Kelly Janis

Skaters battle it out in the "Family and Friends" division while the women wait to take the ice.

Group stitches thread to Zambia

By Kelly Janis

LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

Sometime in the not-so-distant future, an orphan in Zambia will don a t-shirt from the 2005 Addison County Fair and Field Days, while another sports the emblem of the Vermont Voltage Soccer Club.

The warmth furnished by these relics of central Vermont is attributable to the Mothers Without Borders Second Annual Sew-A-Thon, held on Jan. 26 at the Congregational Church on Main Street. The event brought together a wide range of community members — many, but not all, of them members of faith-based organizations — to stitch “t-shirt dresses” to ship abroad to those in need.

Last January’s Sew-A-Thon in Bristol harvested the efforts of approximately 170 volunteers to yield 1,003 dresses. This year, as the day-long event sped into its mid-afternoon hours, volunteers had churned out more than 100 dresses, the organization’s production goal reduced in magnitude from last year to adjust for the fact that the majority of sewing would occur entirely on-site.

“People just wanted to do something to help,” said Pat Chase, who was integral in organizing the event. “It’s fun, and it serves a good purpose.”

Donations from local residents were instrumental in propelling the undertaking.

“We cleaned out Woody Jackson’s basement,” Chase said, referring to the local Holstein cow painter and owner of Holy Cow, “and found t-shirts from various and sundry things.”

Such raw materials were transformed by the efforts of dozens of individuals who labored over sewing machines, cut and ironed fabric before matching it to t-shirts, gathered skirts and pinned them to shirts, packed completed dresses for shipment and served refreshments.

Alice Munson — who had been diligently at work stitching and hemming for over six hours — heard about the event from a friend who participated last year and resolved immediately to contribute. “I do it because I think it’s great fellowship work, and that’s what we’re supposed to do for our church,” she said.

“It’s more fun when we’re all together.”

Volunteers of all ages contributed to this spirit of unity as each age group carved out a niche at the event.

“We had young people do a fashion show for us this morning,” Munson said. “But, they were kind of shy. I said to them, ‘Didn’t you ever watch the models? Don’t you know how to model?’ But they each put a dress on and came out for us.”

The vast majority of those who devoted their time to the event were women. Jim Wright, however, existed as a notable exception, billed by those in his midst as “the sole male,” in addition to one another who had been present earlier in the day.

The retired doctor joked that he had attended the event only after mistakenly identifying its sponsor. “I thought it was Doctors Without Borders,” Wright said, “so I ... no, I’m just kidding.”

Wright characterized his sewing ability as “an early talent, a developing talent,” and declared that, aside from his occasionally contentious relationship with the bobbin, his efforts thus far had proven “glorious.”

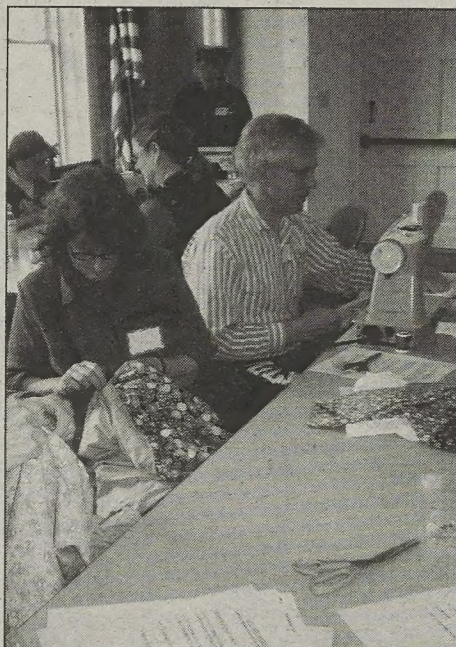
“I think this is my second one,” he said, tugging at the fabric of the dress he was straining to piece together. “Second or third. I’ve only been here for two hours, though.”

“It’s piecemeal,” a fellow sewer reassured him, “so I think you’re on your fourth.”

Despite the display of levity, serious undertones ultimately prevailed.

“Looking at the orphans in Africa — it’s just heart-rending,” Wright said as he leafed through a brochure distributed by Mothers Without Borders, an international organization which serves children in orphanages in Romania, Mexico, Guatemala, Ecuador, Nepal and Bolivia, as well children living in the streets of Africa and India.

According to its mission statement, the group strives “to offer hope to the orphaned and vulnerable children of our world by nurturing and caring for them as if they were our own” and “to support programs that ensure that orphaned and vulnerable children are provided with safe shelter, nutritious food, clean water, education, health care, vocational



Kelly Janis

Volunteers transform t-shirts into treasures.

training, opportunities to contribute to their community and access to caring adults.”

Since the Vermont chapter’s launch in April of 2006, members have mounted numerous efforts to promote this agenda locally. In addition to its Sew-A-Thon, Mothers Without Borders Vermont has collected coats and warm winter clothing for local children and packaged and shipped 135 “Newborn Kits” to widowed mothers and orphaned infants in Zambia. The group hopes to visit Zambia in 2009 in order to aid in the construction of Mothers Without Borders’ Children’s Village and Family Resource Center, which is expected to provide shelter for up to 250 children and furnish villagers with vocational training.

Meanwhile, members are keenly focused on fine-tuning and expanding their local enterprises.

“Next year, we have a little wrinkle we’re going to add to the Sew-A-Thon,” Chase said. “One of the gals is going to come up with a pattern for boys’ shorts, and we’re going to put some of the t-shirts toward that. Somebody said, ‘We didn’t think about the boys!’ and we want to make sure we think about everyone.”

TWO BROTHERS STAGE AND LOUNGE



Courtesy

Angela’s Pub, the beloved Thursday night dance spot is closed for good. But mourning did not stop loyal patrons from turning out on Feb. 11 for the opening of Two Brothers Lounge & Stage, the new live-music venue located beneath Two Brothers Tavern in the space formerly occupied by Angela’s. The space will function as Two Brothers’ primary live music venue, and also features a full-bar and dining offering a limited version of the Two Brothers menu. Extensive renovations to the space include wood-paneled walls, a concrete floor with bamboo inlays, updated restrooms, large-screen TVs, a new pool table and a lounge section complete with sofas and coffee tables. Two Brothers’ calls the result “contemporary and classic,” but only time will tell how the new place stacks up. Angela’s was a tough act to follow.

Bald Bill makes deep impression

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

artist. We don’t create on canvas, or on paper or on wood. We work on a pliable surface that moves — we work on skin.”

“A lot of times we are unable to use a stencil due to the curvature of the body,” explained Henshaw, “so in these cases, we freehand it right on to the skin. We also do a lot of custom work, so often we don’t even have a stencil.”

Along with “old school” designs that have been around for decades, like eagles, nautical images and the classic “cabbage rose” that were favored by the American servicemen who kept the art of tattooing alive, according to Henshaw, Yankee Tattoo also offers its customers custom designs, as well as designs by other

tattoo artists that Henshaw himself purchases while attending conventions. Several of Henshaw’s custom designs have been featured in a variety of tattoo artistry magazines and coffee table books such as one featuring Bike Week at Daytona Beach from 1993, and on the cover of *Body Art* as well as inside the magazine for a design entitled “Phoenix Rising.” This creation, which took 80 hours to complete, was dedicated to the 10-year-old daughter of the woman whose back he created it on. The girl was killed in an arson fire.

The technicolor design depicted birds, flowers and other wildlife, which is actually Henshaw’s specialty. In fact, his own left leg is covered in tiny brightly colored fish that were featured on the Travel Channel back in 2002,

when 35 women tattooed the fish on Henshaw in eight hours in an attempt to break a record.

“People are always saying to me,” said Henshaw, “‘didn’t I see you on the Travel Channel? Aren’t you the guy with all the fish?’ and I answer that ‘yes, that’s me alright.’” Henshaw went on to explain that most of his own tattoos are related to water.

“Everywhere I travel to I try to get a little fishing in,” said Henshaw, who happens to be a Pisces.

Henshaw will be attending the National Tattoo Association’s annual convention in Reno later this year where he plans to meet up with one of his old friends, Lyle Tuttle, one of “the greats,” famous for tattooing the likes of Janis Joplin and the Grateful Dead.

local lowdown

your source for upcoming events in the community

Valentine’s Concert at the Henry Sheldon

On Thursday, Feb. 14, Peter and Karen Sutherland will perform work songs “from the farms and factories” at the Henry Sheldon Museum. The event costs \$7 for members of the museum and \$10 for non-members. So if you are looking for an unconventional Valentine’s Day date, take your favorite girl or guy to the Henry Sheldon for some good old-fashioned crooning. The event is in accompaniment to the Hines exhibit now on display. To make a reservation or to get more information about the concert, call 802-388-2117.



Benefit Fish Fry in Middlebury

Looking for a way to kick off this year’s Lenten season with a bang? Then be sure to mark your calendar for the Benefit Fish Fry on Friday, Feb. 15, at the VFW post on Exchange Street from 4-6 p.m. The cost is \$8 per person. So head on down and support a good, if highly ambiguous, cause. And you just cannot get your fill of fishy goodness and have not given up gluttony for lent, hop in your car and drive to Bristol to their All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry from 5-7 at St. Ambrose Church. Dessert and Coleslaw are promised for a mere \$9.

Black History Month Puppet Show

So, did you ever want to play a musical instrument like your friends Norma and Mary Beth, but your mommy said your family couldn’t afford the cost of an instrument? And you feel all sad and dejected, until a new boy comes to your school and teaches you lessons about life, love and racial equality? (Okay, neither did we. But we figured we would check, in case our dysfunctional childhoods deprived us of this essential coming-of-age experience.) Live vicariously through The Travelling Storyteller and Company as they present “Susan’s Friend” on Feb. 16 at 10:30 a.m. at Ilsley Public Library.

Billings Farm Sleigh Ride Weekend

Although the season during which it is appropriate to whistle “Jingle Bells” has long since passed, who says you can’t go riding on a one-horse open sleigh? Certainly not Billings Farm, in Woodstock. So confident is this living museum of Vermont’s rural past that ‘tis the season to trek through frosty farm fields and defy death on a “jack jumper” sled that they are devoting the weekend of Feb. 16-18 to an open house featuring “visits to the working dairy farm and restored farmhouse, farm programs, and hands-on activities.”



The Middlebury Campus

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editorial

The staff editorial represents the official opinion of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the Editorial Board.

Student disappearance highlights need for safety assessment

Students returned to campus Monday to the unsettling news that first-year Nicholas Garza, an Allen resident and member of Atwater Commons, had been missing for close to a week. The news, divulged to the community by e-mail, took on even greater significance as members of Vermont search and rescue teams spread out over campus. The news of Garza's disappearance has shocked our normally untroubled campus, casting the beginning of the semester in an uncommonly somber light.

In retrospect, it is easy to wonder why administrators waited to alert the College community to Garza's disappearance until Monday morning, particularly after learning that fellow students raised concerns about his whereabouts as early as Feb. 6. The incident only emphasizes the importance of erring on the side of caution when it comes to students' safety and wellbeing. That said, College administrators have conducted themselves appropriately in the difficult days since the announcement, and have done an admirable job of aiding the search efforts and communicating with Garza's family, students on campus and members of the outside community about the progress of the ongoing investigation. Similarly, we can only commend the tireless work being done by search and rescue agencies and the volunteers who are scouring the campus for signs of Garza.

Garza's disappearance is a blow to the community, ultimately shattering students' perception of insulation from the dangers of the real world. While the exact circumstances of his disappearance are still unknown, the situation forces us to consider the issue of safety on campus from both individual and institutional perspectives. The events of the past week act as a frightening reminder of the necessity for students to be mindful of their individual wellbeing and the wellbeing of those around them. Dress appropriately for the cold weather and keep others well informed of your whereabouts. Avoid walking alone after dark, and if you are going to drink, do so responsibly. Take advantage, too, of the tools the College has in place to promote student safety, such as the Midd Rides program and Public Safety escorts.

The administration must also take this time to reflect on ways in which it can improve its response to dangers on campus. Though the College understandably operates at a diminished capacity during academic breaks, offices like the Department of Public Safety and the Health Center have an obligation to those students remaining on campus and should not significantly reduce their services. The College must continue efforts begun in earnest several years ago to secure residential spaces, extending the the access card system to include small houses and other College properties that are not currently covered. While Public Safety officers do an admirable job of being visible on campus, increased outdoor patrols after dark would reassure students and foster increased safety. The College should also reassess the blue light system, investing not only in better lighting across campus but also in more emergency call stations.

The College's energy at this time is necessarily devoted to bringing about a speedy and successful resolution to Garza's disappearance. Our thoughts and prayers are with Garza and his family and friends during this difficult time, and we hold out hope for a safe and happy conclusion.

contact the campus

To contact The Middlebury Campus Publications with story tips or content suggestions, e-mail: campus@middlebury.edu

or find us on the web at: www.middleburycampus.com



"To another graduating class that will never be able to tell all the freshmen how good things used to be..."

Columnist illustrations by Christina Spencer

Sam Dakota Miller

Letters to the editor

To the Editor:

On behalf of our family and employees here at Two Brothers Tavern, I would like to address an article written by H.Kay Merriman in the Jan. 10 edition of *The Middlebury Campus*. The article, entitled "Risky Business ... Is it Worth It? Students using fake IDs to score alcohol face unexpected consequences," has presented all of us with an opportunity to learn about some important issues concerning the use of false identification that were not touched upon in Merriman's article.

First and foremost, the use of false identification for the purpose of purchasing alcohol is a criminal offense. The penalty for doing so (first offense), as outlined by the Vermont Department of Liquor Control, is a \$300 fine, a mandatory 90-day suspension of one's driver's license and completion of an alcohol awareness program (not a \$50 fine as stated in Merriman's article).

However, the penalty incurred by the minor is minor compared to what the establishment suffers if you are caught on their premises consuming alcohol with a fake ID. The first strike is generally a lofty fine (\$500-\$2000) imposed on the bartender and/or a day-long suspension of the establishment's liquor license — which can mean the loss of thousands of dollars. Ultimately, the liquor license can be revoked — which, in the case of our business, would mean certain bankruptcy for my family, up to two years in prison

for myself as an owner and the loss of employment for our 40 employees.

So, while falsifying one's age and/or identity may be a calculated risk for some under the age of 21, please remember that in doing so you are putting our livelihood in jeopardy. Minors, it seems, rarely consider the dangers they are putting establishments in when they attempt to purchase alcohol with a fake ID — which is reflected by the single-sidedness of Merriman's article. This risk, it would appear, is the true unexpected consequence of underage drinking.

Two Brothers Tavern enjoys a wonderful relationship with Middlebury College, its students and their families. We appreciate your business and hope that you will respect our establishment and the laws that we have been entrusted to uphold. Next time, please consider the magnitude of your actions before deciding to try to 'score' a drink with a fake ID. While it's fun for you, it is not a game for us.

Sincerely,
Holmes Jacobs, Proprietor
Two Brothers Tavern

To the Editor:

After attending the opening night of the new Angela's Bar, which apparently has changed its name to the Two Brothers Lounge, one cannot help but make comparisons. As I strolled in with a crew of eight, we were immediately faced with a 400-

pound bouncer sporting a leather trench coat, a full goatee with connecting sideburns and a shaved head. If this wasn't intimidating enough, the girthy man felt compelled to pace back and forth for the duration of the night. Talk about a buzz kill. Though initially taken aback, I was then moderately impressed by both the ambiance and the décor. With an 88-person capacity and a doorman with a keen eye, I felt as if I were in a roomy senior lounge that could have been annexed to the library. There were brown leather couches, mahogany trim on four walls and lighting fit for a classy piano bar. I am now more likely to use this space as a study lounge rather than a raunchy Thursday night dance venue where you could get funky to 2 Live Crew.

The functionality of the space was greatly improved after rearranging the order of key areas of congregation: the bar, the island and the pool table. The bar has intelligently been moved to the opposite side of the entrance, maximizing flow of traffic. This has left plenty of room between the watering hole and the drink island whereas they were previously pressed up against one another leaving enough distance for a two-person line. The pool table was cleverly placed in the corner, allowing for less abrasive interaction between the locals and the heavily intoxicated students. All of us faithful patrons witnessed our fair share of near brawls. After all of these well

(Continued on page 10)

campus policies and information

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Monday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. *The Middlebury Campus* is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign 2.0 and is printed by the Press Republican in N.Y. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Office phone: (802) 443-5736. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.

notes from the desk: Derek Schlickeisen

Social houses: worth another look

You made the choice when you came to Middlebury.

"Greek life isn't for me," you thought. "I don't want to go to a big school where the only way to be known is by joining some fraternity full of problem drinkers who will make me do degrading things just to let me hang out with them."

Well... maybe you didn't say it just like that. But I did. As a proud Virginia native, I had in-state status at a bunch of great big schools with a thriving Greek life like only the South can provide. And I took a pass because I didn't think it was for me.

To cut to the end of this little story, I ended up pledging one of the College's social houses, and it was among the best decisions I've made since arriving at Midd.

I don't mean to plug my or any other house, but rather to disabuse you of your misconceptions regarding social houses on campus.

Social house members are problem drinkers. This is a pretty big one I've encountered with my non-member friends ("Unaffiliated,"

I think, is the technical word for you). When people drink at social house parties, they are much safer and more moderate than when they drink elsewhere. That is because houses do not serve hard liquor at parties, and because when guests drink at the house, the members — all of them trained in responsible alcohol service — are watching. This is a big part of why most trips to the Health Center and Porter Hospital come from freshman dorms and not social houses.

Social house members are all jocks. True, some houses have more athletes than others. But in reality, many of us are just huge nerds in disguise. I, for one, am both an active social house member and an editor with this esteemed publication. My house also counts among its membership more than a few club leaders, veterans of J-term organic chemistry and frequent participants in inter-collegiate competitions named after dead mathematicians.

Social house members are exclusive. That is just plain not true. If

the rush posters that pop up every semester aren't evidence enough, we would love nothing more than to see your bright shining face on bid night. We don't reject bids, and we don't make new members feel unwelcome. We love you. Love us back.

Social house members sell their souls during pledge. Shockingly, many pledges find that they post their best grades during pledge semester. The less time you have, it turns out, the better you tend to manage it. And fortunately for you (and us when we were pledges), Vermont state law prohibits paddling.

So the upshot of all this is that you should give the social houses another look. They aren't just for your super-outgoing friend or the guy on your freshman hall who drank beer in the shower. They're another one of the many great things Middlebury has to offer, and they're not the fraternities you strolled by with disdain on your college tours.

Derek Schlickeisen '09 is a Focus editor from Alexandria, VA.

heard on campus

Are we going to create a division between queers and queer-friendly individuals who either live in the house or support its residential aspect and the queers and queer friendly individuals who do not? To talk about one gay 'community' on this campus is highly inaccurate.

— Student Government Association President Max Nardini '08

Shenanigans: Alex Garlick

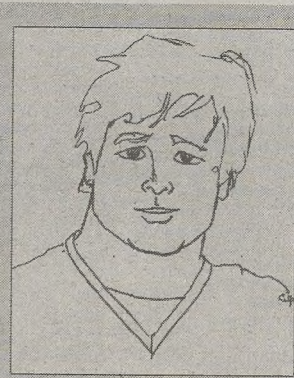
Is it time to be inspired by Obama?

Our generation is surging in support of Barack Obama in his bid for the nomination of the Democratic Party. Campaigns are turning towards new methods for mobilizing voters (Facebook, anyone?) that are aimed directly at you — college students. Young voters, which the *Baltimore Sun* labels the "Millennial Generation," have been vital in the primaries so far, fueling Obama and Mike Huckabee's victories in Iowa, and in subsequent contests. So what does this mean for Hillary Clinton? It's probably not good, although the Clinton campaign has been (in the words of MSNBC) "pimping out" Chelsea Clinton on college campuses to muster up support for her mom. It does not seem to be working that well, as even the students at Hillary's alma mater, Wellesley College, seem to be supporting Barack.

The overwhelming support of Obama's campaign from our generation implies that young adults are buying Obama's inspirational message. His mantra is hope and his campaign slogan is "Change We Can Believe In." There is a video all over YouTube entitled "Yes We Can" featuring a song written by Will.I.Am of the Black Eyed Peas. This video splices the music with Obama's New Hampshire concession speech and appearances by celebrities including Scarlett Johansson and John Legend. (Kareem Abdul-Jabbar is in there too, but is he even a celebrity?) It's very powerful. Bob Schieffer of CBS and Chris Matthews of MSNBC both admitted to choking up while watching the video.

However, Obama's opponents maintain that while he is well-versed on stage, he is not in the finer subtleties of policymaking. Hillary claims, "You campaign in poetry, but you govern in prose." Critics argue that his lack of experience will have drastic consequences for the country, and that voters should elect Hillary or John McCain.

So is Obama worthy of his optimistic support, or are young people merely drinking his inspirational Kool-Aid? Should the country's mantra be Barack



campuscolumnist

Obama's "Yes We Can" or Hillary's retort, "No We Can't"?

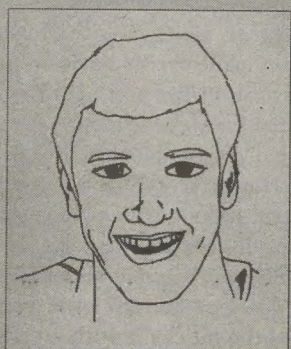
History suggests that a president with an inspirational message can succeed, even if he stumbles initially. John F. Kennedy followed his moving inaugural address (remember, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country") with the Bay of Pigs blunder, showing that good rhetoric does not guarantee success. But his administration is not a total condemnation. The presidency is an intensely personal office, and the personality of the man (or woman) can go a long way in shaping the actions of the White House. Kennedy more than redeemed himself when he deftly navigated the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Is there any way to ensure that Obama's initial experience would be better than Kennedy's? No, but that does not mean a candidate with an inspirational message is a bad thing. It could be time for our generation to be inspired — we came of age in an era of politics of fear, of 9/11 and the Axis of Evil. But enough is enough, we are college students, we share big dreams for the future of America and the energy to carry them out. The answer to the question of whether Obama is worthy of his rhetoric is up to you. So watch "Yes We Can," read one of his speeches or catch an upcoming debate, then decide if this man is worthy of leading our generation and this country deep into the 21st century.

Alex Garlick '08.5 is a Political Science and Economics major from Needham, Mass.

A preface to lunch: James O'Brien

"What is love?" lyrics speak the truth



campuscolumnist

Most people I know at Middlebury are far more intelligent than me. In order to prove their intelligence, many of them listen to songs with lyrics that I can't even begin to comprehend — lyrics like, "Society is a maggot! You are Bob Saget! Life is ephemeral! You are a chemical!" Perhaps not those lyrics exactly, but they listen to Wilco and Radiohead, whose lyrics are somewhere along those lines. There isn't anything wrong these bands' lyrics — except that they don't mean anything at all. Yes, they sound deep. Sure, we can parse these lyrics for shades of meaning. We can listen to what the words suggest, and we can do all the things that they train us to do in English class. But the amount of time spent thinking about a song does not decide its worth. If a song has a personal meaning, great, but it isn't important. A much more significant song goes like this: "What is love? Baby don't hurt me. Don't hurt me. No more." (As a side note, there is actually a Web site that provides the lyrics to this song — just in case

we can't remember them. That Web site = unnecessary. Also, $E=mc^2$.)

For intellectuals and pseudo-intellectuals alike, Haddaway's lyrics seem less interesting than Radiohead's. This is mainly because anyone can instantly understand them. The "What is Love" lyrics insult our intelligence. They are cliché. But they also tend to bring us together as human beings because, at our core, most of us are cliché. Trite sentiments have been beaten to death for a reason — because they are the most universally applicable human feelings. More power to you if you have a closet-shrine to Crispin Glover and eat nothing but super-organic granola, but you still have the same feelings as the rest of us. Sure, you may respond to these feelings in a different way, but I have a hunch that they are the same feelings. I can't prove this hypothesis, of course — I am not you. But I believe I can sympathize. Then again, R. Kelly believes he can fly, which is ludicrous. Aside from the one time I got trapped in a closet, I cannot relate to R. Kelly.

We tend to think to our feelings are complicated because we put layer upon layer of our own thoughts and experience on top of them. "Why do we feel this way?" we ask ourselves before we then assign our feelings to complicated personal reasons regarding parental absence, relationship troubles and the subliminal evils of Hanson. But we shouldn't have to search for explanations. We feel this way because we are human. That's the only explanation that matters.

In this life, we are biologically

secluded within our own separate minds, each watching shadows of an objective world that we can never inhabit, or something like that. Simple song lyrics make us feel that elusive sense of togetherness. It is the beauty of feeling overthought. With pop music, instead of discussing our own interpretations of brooding lyrics, we can listen to a Kelly Clarkson song and more or less know exactly what she is talking about. Then we can all feel like idealistic romantics spurned by a morally reprehensible lover, the premise of just about every Clarkson song. Does this have it downsides? Sure. Young women may gain an unjustified feeling of hatred towards males. This opinion, however, will fade as these young women get older and develop justified feelings of hatred towards males. Songs like Clarkson's "Since U Been Gone" may provide an illusion, but it is one we can all share (despite the irritatingly common substitution of "U" for "You" — a trend we can all hate). Most of us recognize that these songs are a mirage, some of us don't, but either way we can all see the mirage.

No, we do not know exactly what others are thinking when they listen to Haddaway. They could be remembering a lost love, listening to the beat or imagining Bob Saget and the entire cast of "Full House" naked. But whatever we do when we listen to "What Is Love?" together, we feel that we understand it. It does not depend upon being an idealist or a cynic. It's techno! It's cliché! It's us! What's not to understand?

James O'Brien '10 is an English major from Medfield, Mass.

web poll: What do you feel about Walter E. Massey as this year's commencement speaker?



"It's hard to follow up Bill Clinton."

—BOB NORBERG '10



"Nothing."

—GREG FULCHINO '08

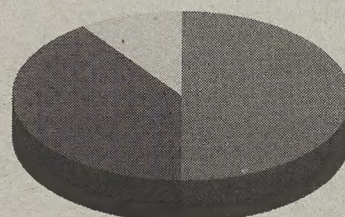


"If one looks at his record at Morehouse College, they might find it controversial."

—RYAN TAURIAINEN '08

Who Cares? 10%

Who? 40%



It would be hard for anyone to follow up President Clinton, so he sounds fine. 50%

Results taken from poll at www.middleburycampus.com

Next week's web poll: What do you think about a Queer Studies Academic Interest House being added to campus?

op-ed: Tristan Axelrod

Participation grading: does it serve the student body?

In an anthropology class last semester, final grades were based on four components: a final exam, a midterm exam, response papers, and participation. The three response papers were graded as check, check-minus or no check, and after receiving three of three checks and a 96 on the midterm, I computed that I could receive a B- on the final and still average above the 93 required for a solid A. Having prepared the readings, attended all classes and made a fair number (two to five) of intelligent comments at each, I could only assume that my participation grade would be an A. Lo and behold, I received an 83 on the final — I had to take it shortly after the final completion of my senior thesis, among other things — and was given an A- for the semester. I confronted the professor, who promised to reconsider the grades and send me the full breakdown. I received only a partial breakdown of my final exam grade, which I had not meant to contest in the first place.

Last semester, I took a class with my significant other, and had a different encounter with class participation. Neither of us particularly liked the professor because the grading seemed unpredictable and biased by personal taste. Unlike my significant other, I was unable to conceal my distaste for the professor much of the time, both personally and academically, despite my best efforts to the contrary. Again, I made an effort to meticulously complete each assignment, but my grades added up to a B+. However, this time, strangely enough, participation boosted my grade to an A-.

I have more stories such as this, and could provide anecdotal evidence of cases in which gender, prior personal relationships or the professor's professional and personal

insecurities led to a perceived bias in class that pushed my grade at the professor's whim. Furthermore, after many discussions with other students and faculty, I know I am not alone in recognizing this phenomenon.

Clearly in some cases the ability to verbally engage subject material is integral to an assessment of the student's understanding, for instance in seminars and foreign language classes. However, what about the hard sciences, lower level classes in the soft

ences and the fine arts?

Surely in classes

meant to

foster

factual

knowledge as

opposed to intel-

lectual en-

gagement — and not

always even

then — assessment

of participation is un-

necessary and even

harmful.

Participation

grading provides no

incentive for good

teaching. If it is the

student's responsi-

bility to participate, what

incentive does the

professor have not

to read from a text-

book?

If the professor cannot

engage the information more clearly or

deeply than another source, grading based

on participation becomes a crutch that sus-

tains professional irrelevance.

Participation grading is not quantifiable,

and barely accountable. Depending on the

syllabus, professors are able to swing entire

letter grades in any direction, knowing that a

student's demand for accountability will be mauled by hordes of bureaucracy before it reaches his or her doorstep. By the time the student has the grade it may already be the next semester, and chances are the student won't have the time or energy to stand before a committee and deeply analyze their in-class commentary. Seeing as final papers and exams often go unreturned as well, the student often never knows their participation grade. If he or she does figure it out, it's so far after the fact that end-of-semester reviews become irrelevant as well — but if the professor has tenure, they never were in the first place.

Participation grading does not necessitate quality. Instead, it encourages students to make their one to four comments per class regardless of preparation or interest. This wastes everybody's time, and unless the professor bothers to reprimand students for lackluster commentary (which I have never seen occur, although I hear it happens), we can only assume that inanity is an acceptable substitute for erudition. What incentive is that for anyone else to try? Furthermore, participation grading encourages students to brown-nose in any way possible by playing to the professor's personal biases — be it to subject matter, sexuality or anything else. When nobody knows anyone else's grades and the professor never bothers to assess quality of participation until the end of the semester, everyone makes stuff up, hoping in whatever way that the participation grade will swing in their favor.

Participation grading contributes to a negative academic atmosphere. Besides wasting time with inane commentary, enforced participation can lead to excessive competition and stress. When students feel they must not only understand and engage material but demonstrate that engagement better than others in order to receive a good grade, they often over-prepare. Furthermore, the classroom dynamics of courses such as comprehensive exams and seminars encourage

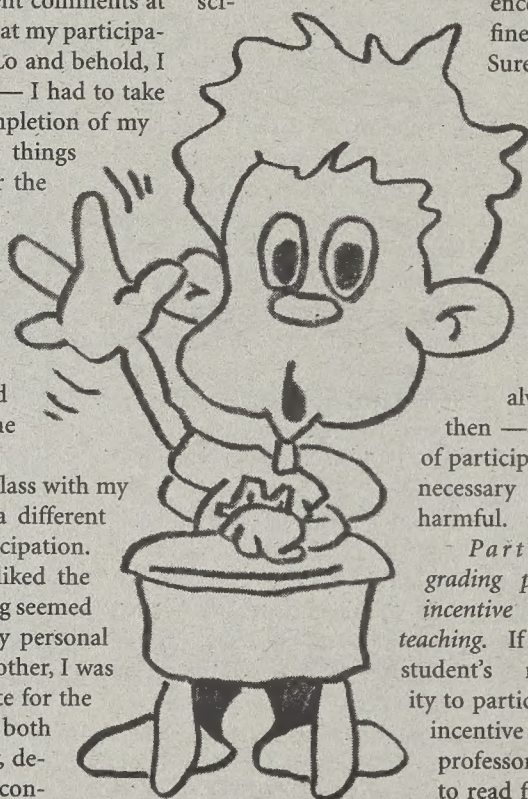
hierarchical feuding among students. Without frequent explanations and assurance from professors, students have no reason not to attempt to demonstrate superiority where mere facility would be appropriate. If students knew they could receive the same grades simply by listening attentively, skipping class when ill or unable to prepare and making only intelligent, well-researched comments, the experience would be more fulfilling for all those involved.

For those who don't care about grades, should participation matter anyway? If a person is content to pay \$47,000 just for cafeteria food and dance parties, isn't that punishment enough? Why try to force a person to waste everybody's time?

Unfortunately, I have little time left before I graduate, and I do not intend to spend it fighting the system. However, it consistently bothers me that faculty members exercise quantifiable judgment on students based on unquantifiable standards and little accountability. As I prepare to leave Middlebury with little more than my memories, papers and GPA, the importance of this phenomenon grows in my mind. We need to ask ourselves what we expect to receive from this experience — and each segment of it — and how and why we are allowing others — paying others — to assess us.

Sometimes I find myself saying, "it will be nice to get out of college, where arbitrarily qualified individuals won't have the luxury of projecting onto me their idiosyncrasies, vulnerabilities, insecurities and neuroses in the form of some vague assessment." Then I realize that actually most of life is like that, so it's not so bad. However, Middlebury spends a lot of time and money trying to create a utopia — culturally, environmentally, sexually, academically, etc. — and it seems to me that clamping down on this one issue would bring us just a little bit closer without costing much at all.

Tristan Axelrod '08 is a Music and Economics major from Washington, D.C.



Letters continued

thought out improvements in floor planning, however, their common sense failed them after deciding to put the dartboards over the coat racks. Sheer stupidity or a simple oversight? I'll leave that one up to you. I'm curious to see the confusion of the regular Thursday night crowd once they discover the absence of a true dance floor, the cornerstone of past debauchery. Rather than further watering down the already questionable Middlebury social scene, I have hopes that this detail will be overlooked.

Sincerely,
Nate Shreve '08

To the Editor:

The CEO takeover of our nation flourished during the Clinton and Bush administrations. It wasn't just the well-worn ruts through the White House and through Congress. Please remember, those very fertile issuances of stock options that propelled big political donations that propelled more issuances and more donations, etc. It spread like wildfire from a few corporations, as compensation-substitutes, to thousands of other corporation executives. Shareowners not receiving the issuances, the general population, pensioners, investors, consumers, and others are still footing their bill. The market is left with a Jell-O-like foundation.

Only voters, transcending political party affiliation this year, can elect a president and members of Congress who can get us out of the ruts.

Sincerely,
John Bauer
Martinez, Cal.

To the Editor:

It is reassuring to note the item about classical music performance by your own music community. As an alum, I hope that at some point Middlebury's classical music performances will become archived with those from around all of New England at www.cvNewEng.org, Classical Voice of New England (CVNewEng), Inc. It is a new non-profit cast in the style of San Francisco Classical Voice that inspired Classical Voice of North Carolina, my former employer, www.cvinc.org. At some point, I hope someone will be assigned to review classical music at Middlebury for Classical Voice of New England, Inc. Apparently, I have been knocking at the wrong doors in order to get the concerts posted at www.cvNewEng.org, for which I am a music critic. This online classical music journal is, in its halting infancy, being manned by five volunteers to show its potential.

Readers of this letter may want to volunteer to send writing samples when funded and appropriate for CVNewEng to begin to hire independent contractors who are freelance writers. Other readers may move on to the Support Us page and see how to, via the fiscal agent Granite State Opera, Inc. David Perkins of "The Boston Globe" is allowing CVNewEng to repost his Greater Boston reviews at no charge, so count him as one of the volunteers when you check out the website. Student interns in journalism may be interested in working with this organization.

Sincerely,
Mary Elizabeth Nordstrom
Kennebunk, ME



Is it ironic that my mailbox has exceeded its size limit due to all of the automated messages warning me that it's over the limit?

John Birnbaum

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Will you be my VALENTINE?

Lovestruck Midd couples dish on dating

By H. Kay Merriman
STAFF WRITER

Countless columnists of *The Campus* have lamented Middlebury's lack of a dating scene, and students of all grades and sexual orientations express that the student population is generally uninterested in long-term relationships. During orientation for the class of 2010, a residential advisor announced to the audience of eager Cook Commons first-years that this college is not the place to find love, but sex.

It is true. Middlebury students are not commonly seen taking each other out on dates, but in spite of this, some couples do make it work. In the spirit of Valentine's Day and with the hope of proving that romance is not dead at Middlebury College, I caught up with three of the College's more well-known couples to see how they began and maintain their relationships on a seemingly unsupportive campus.

Heather Harken '08 and Ted Parker '08, or "Teather" as some call them, would first like to clear the air about how their relationship began. Parker recounted that their class was the first to have access to Facebook before coming to school, allowing students to befriend their future dormmates as a way to get to know them.

"We talked a lot on Facebook, but not romantically," said Harken, debunking the myth that the two started dating online. Harken and Parker then launched into what they affectionately refer to as "the coffee story" or the true beginning of their three-and-a-half-

year relationship at Middlebury.

"Remember the square dance the second night of orientation?" Harken said with a sly smile. She recalled awaking the following morning to find a note from Parker on her white board inviting her to come up for coffee. Over the next two weeks, the two spent a lot of time together and quickly became best friends before deciding to date. They admit that their situation is unique.

"We both showed up like every other freshman, not looking

for a relationship," said Parker.

"We really have no idea how this happened," added Harken.

Jackie Montagne '09 and Roger Perreault '09 also arrived at Middlebury without any dating aspirations. Montagne was still going out with someone from home, but was intrigued when she met another tall redhead on the first day of school. They bonded all of spring semester, but it was not until October of their sophomore year that they took their relationship to the next level. During Fall Break, Montagne had devised a large scavenger hunt of poems by international authors in the library for Perreault to complete.

"The country of origin of each author corresponded to a code that said 'meet me at

the covered bridge at midnight,'" Perreault recalled.

"...and on the covered bridge at midnight I said, 'let's make this official,'" said Montagne, completing the story.

When asked how they maintain a relationship with such a complex beginning, Montagne responded, "Roger really lightens me up. I love that I can be myself, the insane Jackie that everyone knows and loves, around him."

Perreault simply said, "She's really attractive."

Chris Abbott '07.5 was initially drawn to Courtney Tabor '09 for the same reason. "We met at Courtney's first Chamber Singers rehearsal her freshman year, and

I couldn't take my eyes off of her. Lucky for me she didn't notice," Abbott said. He invited Tabor on a walk around campus on the first Friday night. After talking with her on the steps of Mead Chapel that evening, Abbott realized how much he enjoyed her company and later wrote her a note in Braille inviting her on a second date. "The rest is history," he said.

The stories of the couples' initial meetings are heart-warming, but it obviously takes more than a cup of coffee, a scavenger hunt or a nice note to sustain a serious college relationship. All three couples emphasized the importance of leaving campus.

"A lot of students don't utilize the town and Burlington," commented Perreault. He and Montagne enjoy hiking together. Parker

and Harken cited Black Sheep Bistro, Starry Night Café and even the Vermont Teddy Bear Factory as some of their favorite destination dates. "Neither one of us believes in Proctor dates," said Parker. He and Harken complained that when friends see them alone at a dining hall table, they assume that they are on a date and will not sit down with them.

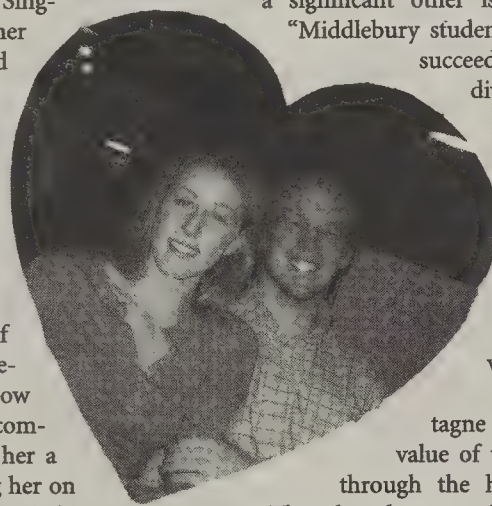
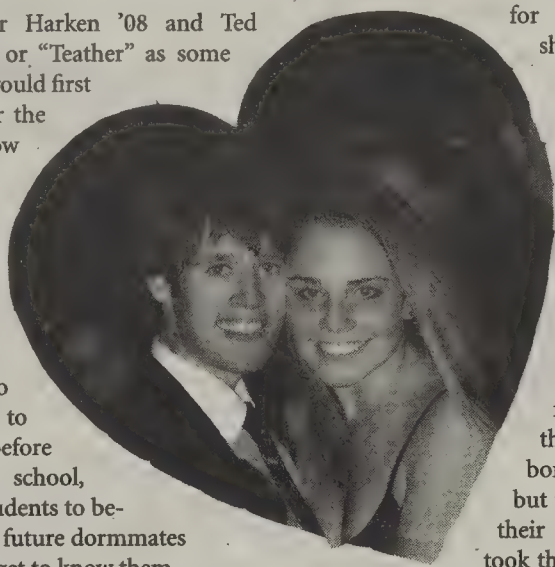
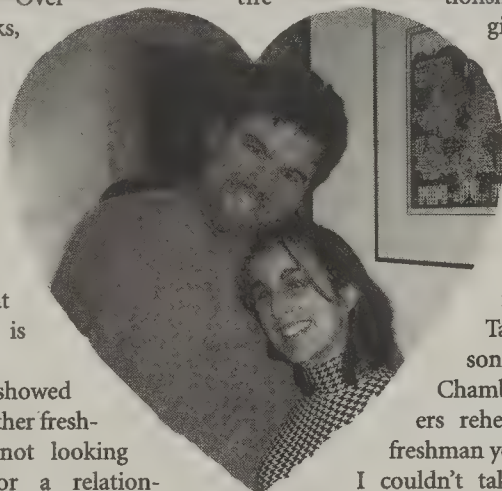
Abbott acknowledged that dating outside of the dining halls is a significant time commitment to add to an already busy schedule. Time, the couples agreed, is one of the largest factors preventing students from dating.

"There simply is way too much happening at Midd to try and date," said Abbott. "We have made a decision to make time for each other as well as the other priorities in our life."

Perreault noted that time spent with a significant other is never time wasted. "Middlebury students have such drive to succeed in an American individual sense that it's hard to conform to someone else," he explained. "It's seen as a detriment to succeeding, but they don't realize that it's exactly the opposite — it's really valuable."

Perreault and Montagne can attest that the value of their relationship lasts through the harsh winter weather. They shared a story of Perreault losing Montagne's Valentine's Day card near Twilight Hall in the blizzard last year. In April, Montagne discovered the card, in perfect condition, in a pile of melted snow. "If that's not meant to be, I don't know what is," she said.

Hopefully, with the examples of Harken and Parker, Tabor and Abbott, and Perreault and Montagne, Middlebury's dating scene will be able to weather the storm like Perreault's lost valentine.



Clockwise from left to right: Ted Parker '08 and Heather Harken '08; Chris Abbott '07.5 and Courtney Tabor '09; Jackie Montagne '09 and Roger Perreault '09.

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The truth about carbon offsets
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MoveEnergy

Class of '11.5 weathers a chilly orientation

By Rachael Jennings

STAFF WRITER

Think back to your first few weeks at Middlebury, when you were struggling to remember roughly 2,000 new names, find your way around campus, balance four new classes and learn to live with a stranger. Add to that the pressure of jumping into the College's social scene halfway through the school year, and you can see why some Feb admits could potentially feel overwhelmed. But talk to any member of the Class of 2011.5 — the newest new kids on the block — and you will likely find them confident and ready.

The 102 new faces on campus are excited, nervous, curious and sometimes lost. They are faces that have seen the world, captured new languages, converged with new cultures and probably still reflect tans from the climates of their past journeys.

Those adventures seemingly included every type of activity and spanned every corner of the globe — even the farthest reaches of the Southern Hemisphere, in a few cases. David Croitoru '11.5 did conservation work in New Zealand and then traveled alone in Australia, where he ended up meeting two other Febs completely by chance, until he ran out of money and headed home. After waiting tables in the fall, Phebe Meyers '11.5 spent seven weeks traveling in New Zealand, the Cook Islands and Fiji before doing an internship with biologists in Costa Rica, where she learned about tree species and tagged birds. Amanda Warren '11.5 also journeyed to both Australia and New Zealand before learning how to build her own sea kayak at boat-building school in Maine.

Another world traveler, R.J. Adler '11.5

improved his French in France, worked at a vineyard in Switzerland and taught English and Drama in South Africa. Before some relaxation in Hawaii and a stint at a therapeutic

these enthusiastic students, except this time the new locale will be a charming (if slightly less exotic) small town nestled between Vermont mountains, where no one needs

was "wholesome" in comparison to that of the Class of 2011, which involved alcohol and streakers.

Besides the square dance, the Class of

2011.5 enjoyed snowboarding at the Snow Bowl, eating a family-style dinner together at the Lodge, dancing and laughing at a Doughboys concert and participating in a few fun mixers and "getting to know you" activities.

Levine described orientation as "one giant group therapy session" — in fact, the entire Feb class partook in a group hug in the middle of McCardell Bicentennial Hall.

"It might have been dorky, but we didn't think of that," Levine commented.

After group therapy sessions and a lot of fun, the new Febs are just itching to start the spring semester. However, there are feelings of anxiety and uncertainty as well. They are nervous about classes, prioritizing and juggling all of their options and the new life to which they must adjust.

"I sat in on one hour of college class — that's all I've ever seen of college," Gaskin said.

Nervousness aside, the Class of 2011.5 already seems to have a healthy dose of class pride.

"I love being a Feb," Adler said. "It's like entering a frat right when you get into college and people are so happy to see you. It's a big part of my identity that I'm happy to have all over campus."

Based on their fascinating "Febmasters," these new students all have interesting stories to tell. So, stop a member of the class of 11.5 to chat and let them know that you are as glad to have them on campus as they are to be here.



Courtesy

Orientation Leaders Jamie Rosenfeld '10.5 and Max Kanter '10.5 unwind in the snow.

equestrian center in Maine, Kaitlynn Levine '11.5 honed her research skills in a lab where she studied the carcinogenic properties of lunar dust. Ross Brockway '11.5 also worked, spending his days at a thrift store called Thriftsmart and interning at his church, where he made videos and even wrote some sermons. Mike Gaskin '11.5 experienced a healthy balance of employment and travel, clocking hours at outdoor store R.E.I. in addition to visiting Ecuador, where he "climbed a big mountain and planted a lot of trees."

The excitement will only continue for

stoplights and everyone knows each other. What do they think of this fresh escapade in comparison with their previous feats? If their orientation was any indicator, then it is safe to say that they will be happy with their newest location.

"Feb Orientation is the best thing that's ever happened to me," Gaskin said.

Gaskin's view was shared by many of his fellow Febs, who came to the consensus that a dry orientation helped them meet and befriend more people. Warren commented that their square dance during orientation

First-years surprised by Winter Term experience

By Cloe Shasha

STAFF WRITER

First-years have been hearing rumors about Winter Term — colloquially referred to as "J-Term" — since they set foot on the Middlebury campus. While many members of the class of 2011 shared similar preconceived notions of what Winter Term would hold, students reported having a range of experiences — many of which they did not expect — during their first January at college.

Several first-years such as Margo Hennen '11, Moriel Rothman '11 and Rachel Wold '11 expected a light workload and a month of partying during Winter Term but were rudely awakened by the challenges of taking a demanding course. Because of their significant amounts of nightly homework, all three students said they had less free time than they had hoped for.

Zach Howe '11 did not imagine that he would have to spend as much time in the library as he did during January. Stephanie Preiss '11 also expected that Winter Term would be a much less rigorous academic experience than it was and that she would have more time to pursue other interests outside the classroom.

"I thought J-Term would be a lot less work than it was," said Preiss. "But my class was serious and I had a ton of assignments."

The Winter Term course catalog offered classes ranging from Pinhole Photography to Organic Chemistry to student-led courses like Middlebury Entrepreneurs. Certain classes demanded long hours of work each night while others gave far fewer assignments. Some first-years, therefore, expected their January workload to be similar to the individual experiences they had heard recounted by their first-year counselors and other older students.

Unlike Hennen, Rothman and Wold, who had conferred with these students who had taken easier classes, Tanjila Sultana '11 assumed that she would have a heavy workload

based on rumors she had heard about Winter Term from upperclassmen who had taken especially demanding classes during past Winter Terms. As it turned out, she had much more time to socialize and have fun than she had anticipated.

"J-Term was so much better than I expected it to be," said Sultana. "It was a rewarding experience after fall term and I had less work than I thought I would. But it was too short!"

Many students found their Winter Term classes to be stimulating, interesting and different from their fall term class environments. Students agreed that the ability to devote all academic focus to one class changed the learning atmosphere, giving them more time to master the subjects they studied and ultimately greater participation.

"I expected J-Term to be fun and relaxing without the stress of a full semester's workload," said Kyle Hunter '11. "J-Term was great because I took an amazing class."

"My class was intense," said Howe. "But I was thrilled with it."

Many other students also reported great satisfaction with the classes they picked for Winter Term. Part of this satisfaction can be attributed to the prevailing Middlebury attitude towards academic experimentation.

Hope Yu '11 wanted to try a completely different subject from her fall term courses, and ended up satisfied with taking a class in an area that was outside of her academic strengths. She had the opportunity to explore a field that required more of a time commitment than she would have been comfortable with had she also been taking three other courses.

Both Howe and Yu agreed that they were surprised by how stimulating the material of their Winter Term courses turned out to be. They reported that rumors of Winter Term often excluded recollection of academic stim-

ulation.

"I wanted to do something creative," said Ashley Tyner '11. "I wanted to paint or write. I got to do just that, and I loved it."

Some first-year foreign language students — who had to continue their introductory

friendships changed over Winter Term.

"I met new people," said Hennen. "People had more time to go to parties, so there were more diverse crowds going out this term. I got to know people that I had met once or twice but did not really know before January."

J-term was so much better than I expected it to be. It was a rewarding experience after fall term and I had less work than I thought I would. But it was too short.

—Tanjila Sultana '11

level language classes over Winter Term — heard upperclassmen's memories of unusual or creative work during Winter Term. These first-year students did not feel that they got the same authentic "J-Term Experience." They wished they had had the freedom to choose a new and different class in the same way that Tyner did rather than continuing their foreign languages.

"I was locked in for a language," said Jonathan Kay '11. "But I would have liked to have taken something intellectually stimulating that required less work."

Over Fall Term, language student Rothman said that he looked through the Winter Term course catalog with a tinge of jealousy, knowing that he could not choose any of those classes.

But workload was not the only area that surprised many of the first-years. Students' social expectations also differed from the realities of their Winter Term nightlife.

Because of January's reputation as a party month, first-years expected to meet many new people, and they discussed the way in which

Not all first-years reported a similar social dynamic. Donny Dickson '11 found that his good friendships grew stronger and that the people he did not know as well fell off his radar.

"I did different activities over J-Term, so I met some new people through those activities," said Dickson. "But if anything, my close friendships got stronger, and I spent less time with the people that I was not as close with."

The expectations that first-years had of Winter Term relied mostly on campus-wide stereotypes and less on an in-depth investigation of older students' previous Winter Term memories.

Overall, first-years left Winter Term happy and a few students reported having the "J-Term Experience" exactly as they had imagined it.

"J-Term was great," said Jon Campbell '11. "I had plenty of time to ski and do other activities."

"I could do whatever I wanted over J-Term," said Max Benjamin '11, "and it was a party the whole time."

Offsets figure into Carbon Neutrality Plan



Zipcars are one of many initiatives that contribute to reducing the College's carbon footprint.

By Tess Russell
FEATURES EDITOR

For the past two years, incoming Middlebury first-years have received — among a myriad of other orientation materials — an offer from the College's Office of Environmental Affairs to purchase an "offset" for their individual carbon emissions. This year, 156 students participated in the program, most of those coming from the classes of 2010 and 2011.

In nine months (roughly the length of the school calendar), a typical student releases about three tons of global warming gases into the atmosphere just from using heat and electricity in his or her dorm room. This can be neutralized for 36 dollars through Native Energy, a Vermont-based offset provider that invests the money in environmental projects to create new sources of clean, renewable energy.

The offset market, which has experienced rapid growth over the past few years, is virtually unregulated — thus, not all providers are created equally. Clean Air Cool Planet, a nonprofit organization dedicated to finding and promoting solutions to global warming, recently commissioned a study of 30 companies and identified eight of those (Native Energy included) as providing the highest caliber offsets. Three major factors determine the quality of an offset project: permanence, "additionality" and verification that the project is being carried out as intended. A forestry project, for example, is not ideal because the impact is not necessarily permanent — the trees planted could succumb to fire or pestilence and would no longer be able to perform their offset function of CO₂ absorption.

Jack Byrne, the sustainability coordinator for the College, elaborated on the concept of additionality in an e-mail.

"Additionality means that the money used to purchase offsets makes a real difference in whether or not the project would take place," Byrne explained.

"For example, a wind turbine project on an impoverished reservation to displace electricity being purchased from coal-fired power plants would [make a difference], while a solar array designed as part of a building as normal practice would not."

Michael Kadish, the communications director for the San Francisco-based provider TerraPass, agreed that an initiative must be additional in order for it to represent a valuable offset.

"We evaluate different projects to make sure they are designed and implemented with carbon credits in mind," Kadish said. "For example, we would not fund something that had been initiated because of a state regulation."

As Middlebury approaches its 2016 carbon neutrality deadline, the administration (in conjunction with student activists like Bobby Levine '08) is pursuing various new strategies to reduce its emissions. Last year, the College's footprint, which is calculated based on carbon explicitly paid for with school funds and thus does not include student vehicle emissions, added up to 30,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents. A staggering 89 percent of that inventory comes from the two million gallons of Number 6 fuel used to heat dormitories, so that figure will be cut in half when the biomass plant currently under construction is completed next December.

Levine, the Student Government Association Director of Environmental Affairs and one of two students on the MidsShift Implementation Working Group Steering Committee (MSIWGSC), stressed the importance of student-administration cooperation in reaching the goal of neutrality.

"The College is doing the big things that it needs to behind the scenes — like investing 11 million dollars in the biomass plant — but that doesn't necessarily mean that students are waking up and thinking, 'I'm glad my heat is coming from wood chips and not oil,'" Levine said.

"There's still a lot to be done as far as engaging students as members of the community and showing students that they do have a serious investment in the College's energy future," said Levine. "For the most part, the administration is very receptive to students' ideas, but they can't make kids stop using dryers and driving and doing the

other little things that increase our carbon footprint. It takes students to do that kind of grassroots organizing and I think that's really the ideal — student-led initiatives, by students for students."

To that end, Levine and others have helped bring Zipcars to campus, coordinated shuttle buses to Boston and New York over breaks and pursued a variety of other service learning projects. These sort of school-wide efforts, combined with individual students' striving to reduce their carbon emissions in traditional ways, are the most important elements of the neutrality campaign. Offsets should be something of a last resort, used to account for the final remainder of already scaled-down emissions.

"We know that once we do everything else possible to directly reduce our emissions of greenhouse gases, we will still have some left, mostly in the employee travel category since we will still be taking planes, trains and automobiles to get around in 2016 and they won't be carbon neutral," Byrne wrote.

Most providers also put a lot of emphasis on reducing consumption before bringing offsets into the equation.

"Offsets are just one of many tools that people or companies use," Kadish said. "It really makes the most sense when employed as part of a broader green strategy or platform, so that's what we look for in our dealings with businesses."

In this way, the concern that offsets are a sort of "Get Out of Jail Free" card, whereby people can declare themselves "carbon neutral" while making few changes in their daily routine, seems to be inconsequential.

"It's hard to imagine that Middlebury students who purchased offsets would be content to rest on their offsets and wouldn't be actively seeking other solutions to climate change," Byrne wrote. "Evidence abounds that they are going way beyond offsets in how they live and how they are working to cause positive change for a more sustainable future."

winners&losers

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture?
The Campus gives its weekly report.

Febs	Population Increase
It's nice to see some new faces around here.	From the dining halls to parking lots to class size to gym equipment, Midd is maxed out.
Snow Bowl	Slippery Sidewalks
Finally some fresh powdah at the Snow Bowl! Too bad it came a little late, and we only had ice on the slopes for J-term.	Could we get some salt or sand on those bad boys? People are taking some serious diggers.
Valentine's Day	Dating Scene
Who doesn't love an excuse to buy their lover (or themselves) candy and flowers?	Whatever happened to old fashioned dating? Come on, guys — it's just dinner and a movie.



the ethicist

by Amanda Greene

I can't remember the last time I paid for music. Or videos. The notion that people go into record stores and exchange cash for albums is foreign to college students. Why would we pay for something that we can get from our friends or neighbors?

Yet, all of the music trading that is facilitated by the Internet is means for concern. Internet music sites get shut down because they are illegal. Students know that downloading music from campus servers is less than kosher, but we do it anyway. And we don't feel guilty about it. We feel resourceful and adept at "beating the system."

I am an advocate of music stealing/sharing/exchange. I don't think I've ever met a college student who isn't. How do we justify our actions? College students are poor — we don't have incomes. We have to spend hundreds of dollars on textbooks. Any extra cash we have is used to pay for an occasional meal out. Valentine's Day dinner anyone?

The Metropolitan Museum of Art has an admission policy that considers economic background. Visitors to the Met can pay as much, or as little as they want to. The suggested student donation is 10 dollars but tickets can be obtained for free. An individual contributes an amount that he is comfortable with and that is proportional to the size of his pocketbook. Ultimately, how much each individual pays for a ticket is based on an honors system. The heiress to the Hostess cupcake fortune can pay less than the struggling musician. She'll have terrible karma but the choice is hers to make. Apply this principle to students' stealing/sharing/exchanging music and Midd-kids emerge as respectable, upstanding community members. I'll pay my dues to the copyright community when I have a six-figure salary, or (more realistically) an apartment with heat, running water and electricity.

And now for this week's question:

Q: I was abroad this past fall and am now back on campus. While abroad, my eyes were opened to the world and its problems, and I find myself returning to campus as a much more conscious member of society with a hunger to fix things. Meanwhile, it seems like most of my friends are stuck in box as far as caring about things going on in the world and their naïveté frustrates me. What is my role in educating my friends?

— Harried-by-Home

A: The conversations you have with friends can address as little, or as much of your frustrations. You, as someone who has been away, have experienced different things and it is natural for you to want to share some of what you have learned with those whom you are closest to. Yet, living elsewhere for six months does not make you a moral expert, or someone who has the experience or authority to tell others how they should relate to the world at large. I encourage you to facilitate an open and informed discussion with your friends, but would caution against presenting yourself as someone whose views carry more weight because you have lived elsewhere.

Want to consult the ethicist? Send submissions to amgreen@middlebury.edu.

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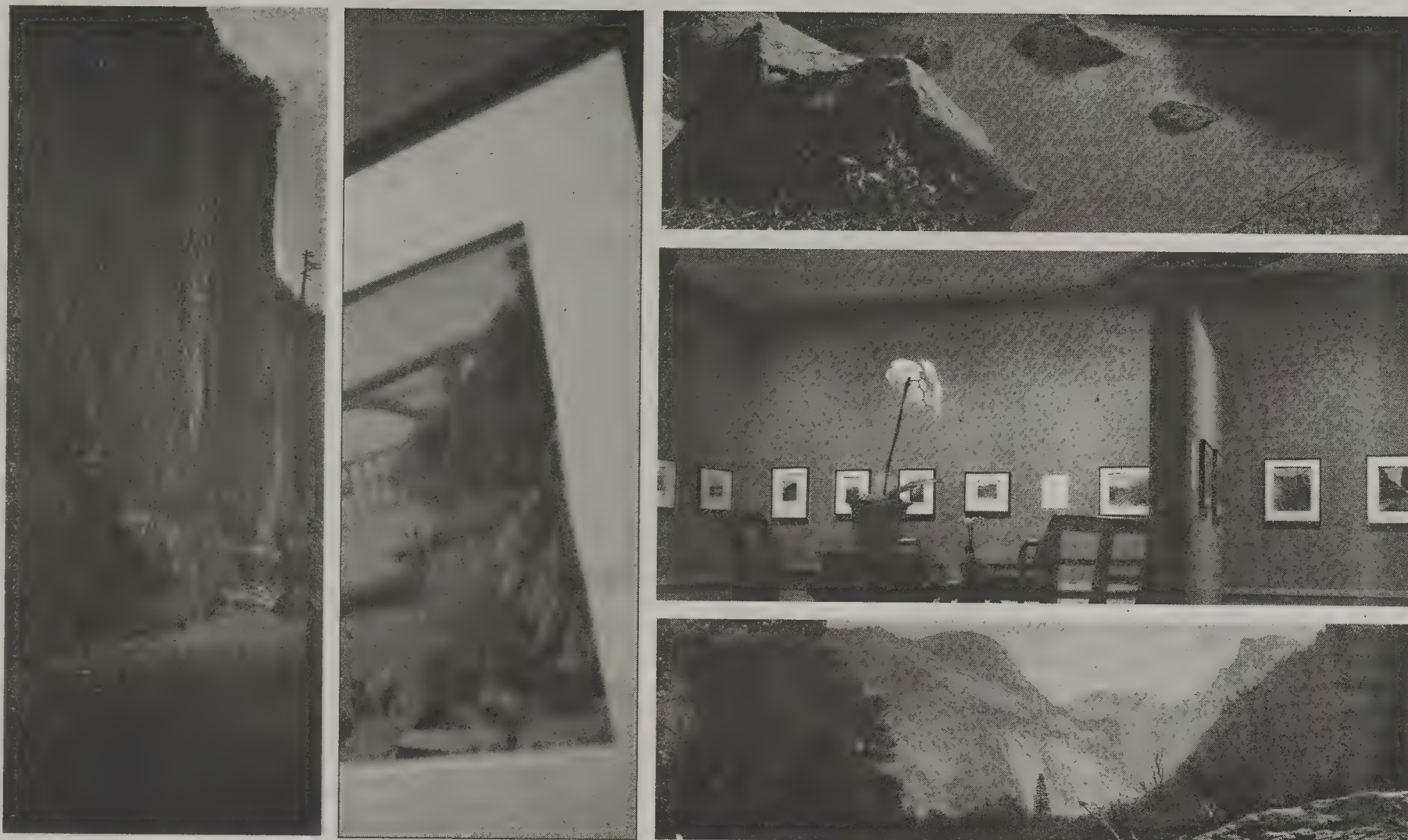
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The Middlebury Campus

VISTA VISION



By Alexxa Gotthardt

Photos by Angela Evancie
and Courtesy of Art Museum

In the advent of photography, the United States was continuing to explore the west. A collection of extraordinary photographs, the subject of the spring semester's exhibition in the Museum of Art, is a testament to that age of artistic and geographic discovery.

There was a time when the photographer's primary function was as a tool of governmental surveying, tourism expansion and geological study. In the mid-19th century, on the heels of the medium's creation, photography was purely practical. Photographers themselves were rare, since the profession demanded a certain personality — perfectionist meets adventurer. Unwieldy equipment, untamed locations and a photographic process that was anything but foolproof made for a delicate yet exciting experience. Despite the boss' directives and the difficulty in developing many of the landscape, photographers of the 19th century have gone down in history as artistes extraordinaires.

"Eloquent Vistas: The Art of 19th Century American Landscape Photography from the George Eastman House Collection," on display at the Middlebury College Museum of Art (MCMA) through April 20, exhibits 78 photographs, all in spectacular condition, taken for the institution, but with an individual eye for beauty. The exhibition is on loan from the George Eastman House, a museum of international photography and film, which holds more than 3,500 prints and 6,500 stereographs of 19th century landscape images.

The exhibition features works by Timothy H. O'Sullivan, Eadweard Muybridge, William Henry Jackson, John Moran, Carlton E. Watkins, William H. Rau, William Bell, Platt D. Babbitt, among others — all photographers who worked for the government, railroad companies or the tourist trade. Their photographs, however, prove anything but canned or conventional, and instead confirm a honed aesthetic and a sense of unchecked awe at the American landscape. Whether a charming stereograph, a mammoth albumen print or a jewel-like daguerreotype (all photographic processes described in the text panels that accompany the show), each photograph,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

editors'
picks

14 **The Vagina Monologues**
Dana Auditorium
7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Whether it's your first time or you're a seasoned veteran, the 10th Anniversary Production of "The Vagina Monologues," directed by Aaron Gensler '08 and Maegan Mishico '08.5, will be sure to be an exciting and pleasurable experience.

14 **Xuefei Yang**
CFA Concert Hall
8 p.m.

Classical guitarist Xuefei Yang caught the attention of the music world when she became the first guitarist to enter a Chinese conservatory. She has continued to garner acclaim, and will perform a recital featuring guitar music of Bach and Paganini.

15 **Latin Dance Party**
Higher Ground
Lounge
8 p.m.

Enjoy an authentic Salsa and Merengue band led by Hector 'El Salsero' Cobeo and salsa the night away. Just a short drive up Route 7 to South Burlington.

16 **Volver**
Dana Auditorium
3 and 8 p.m.

Pedro Almodóvar, known for his stylized dramas on the plight of women, directs this subtle comedy concerning murder and the supernatural and starring Penelope Cruz.

Sondheim musical slits throats, splits sides

By Grace Duggan
ARTS EDITOR

One of the highlights of the last weekend of Winter Term was the Music Department's production of "Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street." The stellar ensemble sunk their teeth into Stephen Sondheim's music and lyrics and, under the direction of Executive Director of the Middlebury Town Hall Theatre Doug Anderson, they developed an impressive and enjoyable interpretation of the unusual musical in less than a month.

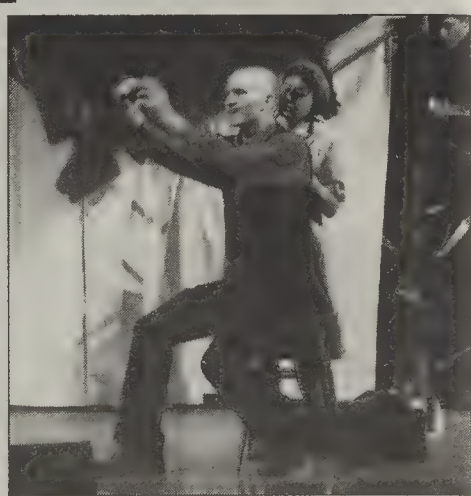
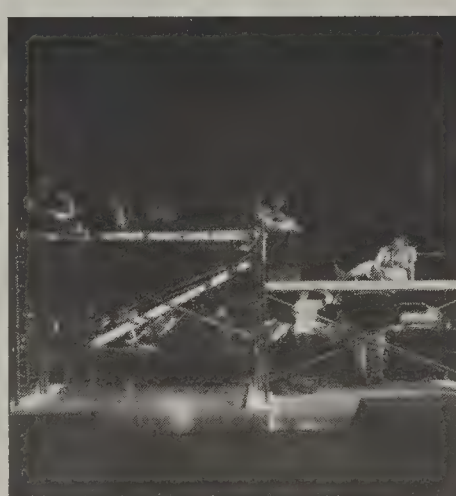
"Sweeney Todd" tells the tragic story of a bitter, revenge-driven man named Sweeney Todd (Ezra Axelrod '08, in his first theatrical performance at the College) who returns to London after 15 years of wrongful imprisonment in the Australian penal colony known as Botany Bay. Upon his return, Todd hears from Mrs. Lovett (Judith Dry '09) that his beloved wife committed suicide not long after Judge Turpin (Bil Davison '08) — the same man who convicted him — raped her. This is only part of Todd's depressing return, as he next finds out that Turpin serves as his daughter Johanna's (Rhiannon Corby '11) ward. Consumed by the desire for revenge, Todd joins forces with the amorous and amoral Mrs. Lovett and returns to his previous profession as a barber, a fateful decision that leaves a steady stream of dead customers who subsequently wind up baked into Mrs. Lovett's pies.

The success of "Sweeney Todd" stemmed from the chemistry between Axelrod and Dry, as well as from the cohesion of the full ensemble. Excluding the anticlimactic death of her character, Dry held the entire concert hall captive with the energy she brought to crowd-pleasing numbers like "The Worst Pies in London" and "A Little Priest." The latter featured Mrs. Lovett and Todd gleefully dancing hand-in-hand and prancing in tandem as they extolled Mrs. Lovett's latest change to her pie recipes: the use of Todd's murder victims. In "God, That's Good" Mrs. Lovett achieves great success feeding unknowing patrons pies made of murder victims. Dry emerged all dolled up and in sharp contrast to the increasingly gaunt and miserable Todd, who

proceeded to kill three men (James Tresner '09, Roberto Ellis '09, Kevin Thorsen '11) over the course of the song, each with a more comical death than the last. The ensemble visibly relished this number, hamming it up as ravenous customers and freezing mid-action several times in garish and hilarious poses.

Though the character of Todd embodies an energy easily distinguished from that of Mrs. Lovett, Axelrod demonstrated he was more than capable of matching Dry's sprightly stage presence. In "By the Sea," Todd's cool ambivalence was juxtaposed with Mrs. Lovett energetically imagining an idyllic life near the ocean. Much to the delight of the audience, Dry emerged from behind parasols held by female ensemble members wearing large sunglasses and a tiny yellow bathing suit. Axelrod balanced Todd's cold-blooded sadism with humanizing moments like mourning the death of the mysterious Beggar Woman (Martina Bonolis '10) and his palpable discomfort during "The Worst Pies in London" after meeting Mrs. Lovett. These points gave the audience glimpses of Benjamin Barker, the man Todd used to be. Axelrod's powerful voice formed the backbone of numbers like the solo "The Barber and His Wife" and "Pretty Women," sung with Davison. "Pretty Women" also featured Todd psyching the audience out in his attempts to kill Turpin, only to be interrupted by Anthony Hope (Max Kanter '10.5), a naïve young man who falls for Todd's daughter. Rounding out the core actors were Teddy Crecelius '08 as Tobias and Noah Silverstein '11 in the role of The Beadle. Crecelius painted Todd and Lovett's unwitting accomplice as chipper and wonderfully innocent — a move that set up Tobias' horror upon learning the truth to come off as all the more unnerving at the end of the play.

Hope's budding romance with Johanna provided a sharp and decidedly less interesting contrast to the fairly one-sided relationship between Todd and Mrs. Lovett. Hope's tendency to put the innocent and virtuous Johanna on a pedestal was interpreted literally in her position at the top of a staircase when the audience meets her in "Green Finch and Linnet Bird." The character of Johanna quick-



Courtesy

From Fleet Street to the CFA, the cast of "Sweeney Todd" delivers a cutting-edge performance.

ly took a backseat to the Johannas imagined by males in the play, specifically Todd, Hope and Turpin. Davison's wrenching portrayal of Turpin's perverted love for his ward in "Johanna" — complete with brutal self-flagellation — served as a warped version of Hope's similar obsession with Todd's daughter.

A less obvious contributor to the success of the production was the ingenious setup of the stage. Large backdrops with angular shapes in black, grey and white created the image of a dirty, sooty London and the scaffolding and movable staircases dominating the stage provided the ensemble with a multi-level stage. Set Designer Alex Benepe '09, like many oth-

ers involved in the production, expressed immense gratitude to Anderson for his input, support and energy.

"He worked just as hard as I did on the set," said Benepe. "It was his idea to use a scaffolding to begin with. He also designed the slide under the trapdoor and the creative uses of the stairs."

"He truly understands what the performing arts can mean for a community," added Crecelius. Given the recently formed partnership between the College and Middlebury's Town Hall Theater, one hopes that "Sweeney Todd" is only the beginning of a successful collaboration between the two.

"St. Crispin's Day" features a feast of laughs

By Grace Duggan
ARTS EDITOR

This Winter Term, Visiting Professor of Theatre Alex Draper '88 took a page from his own acting past — he chose to direct "St. Crispin's Day," a sharp and biting witty anti-war comedy in which he played Henry almost five years ago. On its most basic level, playwright Matt Pepper's "St. Crispin's Day" explores the effects of war on the psyches of its participants. Veiled by bawdy and clever dialogue and humorous sight gags, the work develops an antiwar message and raises serious questions as to the relationship between

human nature and violence. The entire play takes place over the course of one night in rural France in 1415, hours before the Battle of Agincourt. The play's title refers to the feast day of Crispin (Oct. 25th), a Catholic saint. Pepper drew on the work of William Shakespeare, specifically "Henry IV, Part I," "Henry IV, Part II" and "Henry V," especially for forming the basis of multiple characters.

"I did quite a bit of research on all of the characters," said Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki '08,

who received 700 credit for the production in his role as Nym. "Most were just small characters [in Shakespeare's works], but Pepper

If you've got something heavy to say, you've got to say it with comedy.

—Alex Strum '08

paid careful attention to them when creating his own versions. It was interesting to see what he changed and what he left the same to please any Shakespeare fanatics in the audience."

In the opening scene we meet Bardolph (Alec Strum '08), Nym (Tirrell-Wysocki) and Pistol (Peter Hoffman '10), a trio of hilariously asinine dolts who care more about placing added money in their pockets than in their allegiance to King Henry V (Will Damron '09). When Bardolph and Nym are not busy planning to loot a nearby church they occupy themselves by unleashing a steady stream of anti-Irish slurs directed at the brooding Irish conscript Will (John Glouchevitch '10.5) punctuated by pseudo-philosophical statements and crass sexual innuendos. Their views on the world clash with those of Tom (Jimmy Wong '09.5), a young naïve soldier who falls for Maryanne (Stephanie Spencer '09), a French prostitute brought into the camp by Bardolph and Nym.

Along with Hoffman, Strum and Tirrell-Wysocki stole the show and quickly established themselves as the comedic backbones of the play. Their obvious enjoyment of the humor to be found through physical comedy along the lines of the Three Stooges and Monty Python as well as in Pepper's lines themselves proved fresh and magnetic throughout the night. No other moment of physical comedy in the play came even close to the scene during which Bardolph and Nym explained how

to have sex with two French prostitutes (Martha Newman '10, Spencer) by vigorously pantomiming multiple positions.

"That sex gag that you saw in the show was basically how we did it the first time in rehearsal," said Strum. "We added one more position later on, I think, and the props gave us some extra stuff to play around with when we got them, but basically, we found that stuff pretty quickly. Pepper wrote the gag well."

Although the crux of the production rested on hitting the comedic marks, the cast also excelled at conveying its more serious elements. The night before the battle, Tom finds himself openly admitting his fears of war and discussing what it means to live as a soldier with his captain, Fluellen (Sasha Hirsch '10.5). After Fluellen likened Tom's skin to "a crisp summer peach" and provoked a sparring match, the scene took an extremely graphic turn with Fluellen attempting to rape Tom.

The play had added poignancy and relevance given the United States' controversial approach to foreign policy. Pepper, who actually came to Middlebury to see the performance as well as meet with the cast, alluded to this as a key motivation for writing "St. Crispin's Day."

Said Strum, "[Pepper] started writing the play right around the time we were getting ready to go into Iraq. He wanted to write a war play, but he said he knew it needed to be funny. He said something I agree with, which is that very few writers can get away with being serious and didactic. If you've got something heavy to say, you've got to say it with comedy, because otherwise nobody's going to listen." This approach to addressing a serious topic like war and violence allowed both the actors to create and the audience to enjoy this fun, lively and thought-provoking work.



Stan Barouh

King Henry's band of misfit soldiers blend the comical with the serious from the first scene.

Photos capture America the beautiful

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

exceptionally detailed, depicts a country full of breathtaking vistas, rich natural resources and a few (diminutive) people admiring it all. Together, all 78 photographs map a country ready for change as grand as their forests and as big as their mountains.

Taken from the 1850s through the 1890s, the landscape photographs themselves depict the east, the west, and places in between. Some sites are familiar — Yosemite, Yellowstone, Mt. Hood, Harpers Ferry and the Hudson River Railroad — while others seem worlds away, serene fairylands and wild giants' lairs of the imagination. The exhibition's text panels remind us, however, that all of these photographic glimpses are part and parcel of a very real American history. No matter the location, these images, produced during and just after the Civil War, embody both the tension and excitement of the American people.

The layout of the exhibition, designed by MCMA Museum Designer Ken Pohlman, also serves as a reminder of the period. The tope, wainscoted walls and central sitting area, complete with Chinese rug, four elegant chairs and two orchids give the effect of a 19th century parlor, a tranquil location for musing over the striking, multi-layered images.

Eloquent Vistas is all at once a stroll through history, landscape and the very nature of photography itself. While these photographs may be displayed on art museum walls, *Eloquent Vistas* aims at an audience beyond artists and art-historians. According to in-house curator of the exhibition and Chief Curator of MCMA Emmie Donadio, "The photographs in this exhibition will appeal to a wide audience and should engage the interest of people involved in a broad range of the disciplines represented in the Middlebury curriculum. There is something here for everyone — artists, historians, art historians, geologists, geographers, scientists — in short, anyone interested in the transformation of the American



"The Domes" by Eadweard Muybridge captures the pristine majesty of 19th century America. Courtesy

environment. And the quality of these particular prints is extraordinary."

There is something here for anyone interested in the transformation of the American environment.

— Emmie Donadio

Further reinforcing the multi-disciplinary nature of *Eloquent Vistas*, MCMA has organized a busy schedule of programming to complement the exhibition. To kick off the series, a lecture entitled "Truth and its Consequences: Photography's Burden of Fact" was given on Tuesday by Charles A. Dana Professor of History of Art & Architecture Kirsten Hoving. Hoving discussed the issues in accepting the photograph as truth, even in a time when technology was years away from digital toying and touching-up. Using photographic examples

from the exhibition, she shed light on the difficulties in representation 19th century photographers' faced. While they sought to represent the truth, unpredictable photographic processes paired with unfamiliarity with the land and uncertainty of the future made for photographs that were not entirely stuff of reality.

Other upcoming lectures include "The Mountain of the Holy Cross" given by Professor of Humanities John McWilliams on March 13, "Rephotographing 19th-Century Government Surveys in the Western U.S.: Documenting Over 130 Years of Environmental Change," given by Assistant Professor of Geology Jeffrey Munroe on April 3 and "Print the Legend: Photography, the West, and the American Imagination" given by Professor of American Studies and History at Amherst College Martha A. Sandweiss on April 10. Also, several musical groups, comprised of Middlebury students, will play in the exhibition space. The first, a chamber music trio, will perform on Feb. 14 from 1-2 p.m.



THE REEL CRITIC

by Chris Anderson

MOVIE | Atonement
DIRECTOR | Joe Wright
STARRING | James McAvoy, Keira Knightley

Robbie (James McAvoy) is an Oxford graduate, the son of a maid and a groundskeeper to the Tallis family. Cecilia (Keira Knightley) is a part of that family, the eldest of two daughters. Her younger sister, Briony, is 13 and a budding writer. She spins out the kinds of fanciful yarns that are concerned with love and romance — some ways that are fitting, and some that aren't.

"Atonement" is concerned, in part, with things we have seen but not seen — things, as Briony later tells us, we may be "too young to understand." This is first

evidenced in an early scene, when Briony observes Cecilia and Robbie (ostensibly) arguing outside. Briony watches the proceedings furtively, and when Cecilia does something rash — and when a sexual undertone emerges — Briony backs away from the window, blushing. There is something important in that blush — something set apart from arousal, something more like fear — and it effectively foreshadows the remainder of the film.

"Atonement" is directed by Joe Wright, who directed 2005's "Pride and Prejudice," and it's easy to see the similarities between the two films. Both are period pieces. Both are — at their cores — love stories, concerned with good people who deny the feelings they have for one another. What is enjoyable in the beginning is watching the bonds that restrain them dissolve. It's a kind of affirmation, and almost a cosmic promise that good people will find happiness... almost as if to say that God rewards them for their trials. Almost.

What follows is a film that will make you marvel at its treatment of everything — war, depicted as fickle and pointless and horrifying, love depicted as passionate and sexual and difficult, and loss, so poignant it will pain you to see it.

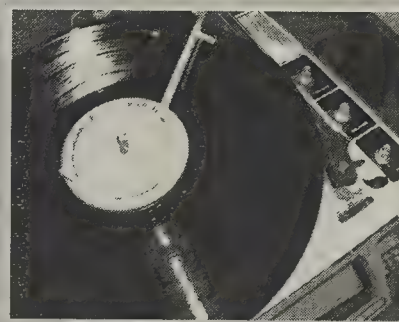
One scene stands out from the rest. After an awkward exchange at the door (following a very awkward event), the characters adjourn to another room — one that will become central to the rest of the film. Here, they exchange inspired dialogue — dialogue delivered with trepidation and vulnerability, dialogue whose honesty makes you believe in love as something indomitable. And the movie is reborn as something different. No

longer are the characters merely charming or restrained — they're bigger somehow. Latent sexuality is exploded into being, and the torrent of emotions that stems from it is astonishing. I wish I could commend the writers for it (Christopher Hampton adapted the screenplay from Ian McEwan's novel), because I think, of all the love scenes I've ever seen — or from stories I've read — it's the greatest portrayal of true love I've experienced. For anyone who is not too cynical to seek out romance, it will evoke the same kinds of feelings.

It is also tragic. As a result of things "seen but not seen," Robbie is accused by Briony of a crime he didn't commit, and enlists in the war (World War II) to avoid jail time. Cecilia spends her time as a nurse. The Tallis family is not what it was. The war is raging, and people die. Robbie and Cecilia exchange letters, the contents of which are earnest and sad, and we are given to feel the tentative and battered hope of two grieving lovers.

As with "There Will Be Blood," the title of the film features prominently in the later parts of the story. Briony begins to understand the implications of her action, and with that gravity comes the need for retribution — for atonement — to set things right. It's a testament to the magnitude of her sin that we wonder if she can.

If the measure of good movies is how deeply they affect you, "Atonement" is great. It is glorying in the right parts, and tragic in the others. All throughout, it is real. It is the kind of film that others aspire to be: an honest story about loss and love and the souls who endure it for its sweetness.



for the record

by Melissa Marshall

Today is the 14th of February — a marked day designed to make the middle of the month as whimsical and just about as uplifting as dirty snow — those charming enough to corner the elusive on-campus relationship will bring dates to the retirement-inspired ambience of Proctor, while those secure enough to brave the long-distance love-affair search for misplaced Norton Shakespeares in the pursuit of the perfect handwritten edition to their Hallmark greetings. Not hot enough a cup-of-tea for you? There is always the jewelry option — but where is the creativity in that? Using the deductive reasoning that singles Middlebury students out as the pink flamingos and sunset oranges of the metaphorical Crayola box, you can give your heartthrob one better than a Chanel necklace — the face of it. Karl Lagerfeld recently unveiled plans to transform Chan Marshall, better known under the moniker Cat Power, as the face of Chanel jewelry. But her omnipresent cigarette and sixties-inspired hair aren't the only things of Marshall's that are smoking — her newest release *Jukebox* is perhaps her most seductive yet.

Reworking the voices of Joni, Billie and Sinatra, Marshall plays with decades, genres and gender in her eighth release. Her second covers album, *Jukebox*, languidly lingers over Hank Williams' "Ramblin' [Wo] Man," wrings restlessness from The Highwaymen's "Silver Stallion" and develops despondency paired with the tinkling of piano keys on Billie Holiday's "Don't Explain." Unfortunately, her feminine prowess falls flat on her predictable and tame version of the show-tune "New York," and despite her slinky sultriness, "I Lost Someone" fails to follow the flame embodied by the Godfather of Soul.

While *Jukebox* remains faithful to Cat Power's typical bare-bones fashion — her heartachingly exposed voice is often stretched taunt over the skeletal frame of minimalist piano and acoustic chords, a surprisingly number of musicians have slid onto the disc. With the help of the Dirty Three's drummer Jim White, Jon Spencer Blues Explosion's Judah Baer, Chavher's Matt Sweeney and Spooner Oldham, who was a major player on her critically acclaimed *The Greatest*, Marshall's covers album is quietly creative and peacefully personal — even if it risks bordering on boring.

Not surprisingly, the album's greatest moments are the original ones. Her remodeling of "Metal Heart" from her 1998 *Moon Pix* comes of cleaner and tighter the second time around with the exchange of piano for guitar while "Song to Bobby" — Marshall's tribute to Dylan — plays like an entry from a 15-year-old girl's diary in its simplicity and acoustic fondness. And even though this high school dropout from Georgia deserves commendation for her spunk in tackling and attempting to conquer the folk greats, *Jukebox* skips a beat in comparison to her wholly original releases. While the overall effect is secretively sexy and smokier than California in the summertime, it lacks the patient passion and wrenching rawness of *You are Free* and *Myra Lee*.

So pull the plug on Barry White and pass over the Marvin Gaye this Valentine's Day and slip under the covers to Cat Power's earthly constructed album. Whether you're searching for arousingly raw, inexplicably intimate or modest comfort, *Jukebox* delivers. And most importantly, it's one of the most thoughtful releases this year — and isn't attentiveness supposed to be at the heart of this whole day?

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—Henry David Thoreau

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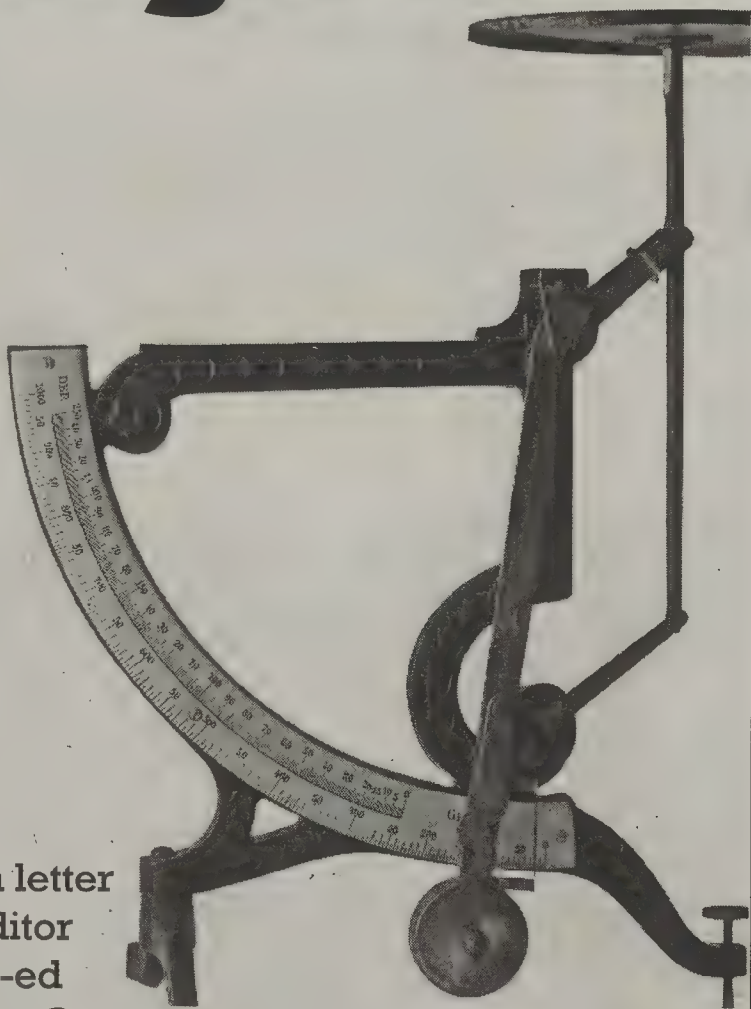
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Cleaver cuts through the Middlebury defense

Norwich flies by men's hockey team on its season-series-sweeping brooms

By Jeff Patterson
SPORTS EDITOR

Rick Cleaver wears number 11. His name contains 11 letters. Now, he has 11 career game-winning goals.

MEN'S HOCKEY

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Norwich	3
Middlebury	0

Skating down the left wing late in the first period, the Norwich University senior cradled a cross-ice pass from one of his penalty-killing teammates, D.J. Fimiani, and then knocked it in for a 1-0 lead. The goal hushed most of the 2,150 fans in Kenyon '85 Arena, who had braved the snowstorm outside to see the fourth-ranked Cadets tussle with the seventh-ranked Panthers, since now the chips were down.

A business major, Cleaver has been all business ever since he first suited up against the Panthers. Over his first five games against the men in blue, Cleaver had scored five goals and helped out on three others.

In his sixth career game against Middlebury on Saturday, Feb. 9, he continued to put the Panther defense at sixes and sevens.

Cleaver's goal, which came 1:24 after fellow Canadian Chad Anderson had been whistled for boarding, was the second such short-handed score the Panthers have given up in their last three games — an uncharacteristic statistic for Middlebury hockey teams, given that they had only given up two goals while on the power play in their previous 36 contests.

NESCAC STANDINGS

MEN'S HOCKEY AS OF FEB. 14

Middlebury	10-3-2
Colby	10-4-1
Amherst	9-4-2
Bowdoin	10-5-0
Wesleyan	6-6-3
Williams	6-6-3
Conn. College	6-7-2
Trinity	6-7-2
Tufts	4-10-1
Hamilton	3-11-1

"We just got too over-indulged in our power play and really let down defensively," explained co-captain Tom Maldonado '08 after the game. An over-indulged power play that had scored three goals on six chances the previous night in a 7-4 win over St. Michael's College.

Although the Cadets added two more goals — an Eric Lauriault lamp-lighter in the second period that was, as you have might guessed, set up by Cleaver, and an Eric Ouellette third-period strike — the one goal was plenty for goalie David Thompson, who stopped all 29 shots on goal.

Or all 28 shots.

When it was still a two-goal game, Trevor Dodds' '11 left-handed snipe hit something red and the red light behind the goal went on, but contrary to universal traffic laws, the players did not stop.

The referees Rick Santilli, Andy O'Brien, and Dave Cioch were not convinced by the initial call by goal judge Al Duclos, and they only stopped play when it was the appropriate time for a face-off.

Fans in the seats were up in arms as they outstretched their arms in disbelief. Duclos, eventually, came out onto the ice and told the refs his version of the story.

"I saw the puck come in, hit the back of the bar inside the goal — either the top of the center bar or the bar beside it, the back bar — and it bounced right back out," said Duclos, during the intermission of the first period of that evening's women's hockey game. "Neither of them really knew for sure. That's the trouble. All three were out [away from the play]; there was nobody on the goal line to watch."

It was the third time in his career as a goal judge that Duclos had been called down to the ice to explain why he had pressed the goal button. "I've never had one call turned around yet," he said. "They've always decided that it

was not a goal."

At times, one could argue, the line of Santilli, O'Brien and Cioch was the most troublesome for the Panthers — even more so than any one Cadets head coach Mike McShane could put out on the ice.

Forty-seven seconds into what looked to be a promising, first-period power play, Casey Ftorek '08 was handed a ten-minute misconduct for what was more misunderstanding than misbehavior.

Ftorek had settled himself down low in front of Anderson's net, when a Norwich defender slashed his stick, breaking it in two. Ftorek, it goes without saying, was no longer settled down. In an attempt to get a linesman's attention, he unhinged the reaming threads of his Reebok graphite stick and tossed the two pieces into the corner before compliantly skating off back to the bench.

Again, Ftorek was compliant more than he was making a complaint. (It has not been confirmed that any of the referees are dyslexic).

The incident echoed of the 2006 men's NESCAC soccer semifinal game, in which Ftorek was given a red card after just scoring the eventual game-winner with less than 10 minutes to go, when he stuck his neck out for a teammate who had been forcefully fouled. The team's leading goal scorer had to sit out the team's next game, a 0-0 penalty kick loss to



Williams in the finals.

Ftorek had a point in both cases — but no points on the score sheet on Saturday.

Instead of sitting next to his teammates, or grabbing another stick to stick with the play, Ftorek had to sit in the penalty box and watch Cleaver go to work.

Now it is time for the Panthers to go to work, though. Fortunately, since Colby lost to last-place Hamilton at home on Saturday

and Bowdoin and Amherst split its weekend games, Middlebury — with its win over St. Mike's — retained its position atop the NESCAC standings.

The team thus continues to control its own destiny for securing home-ice advantage during the conference playoffs. "We can't rely on other teams to position ourselves," said Maldonado. "For the end result, we have to make sure we're bringing our A-game."



Photos by Jeff Patterson

Reigning first-team All-American selection Rick Cleaver beats Middlebury goalie Ross Cherry '08 (top) to put Norwich up 1-0 on Feb. 9. Below, Cleaver is shown assisting on Eric Lauriault's second-period goal. In his six career games against the Panthers Cleaver has scored six goals and had four assists.

Barron '09, Sanchez '11 step up in win

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

said point guard Emily Johnson '09, who sustained a concussion towards the end of the first half. "We didn't finish our shots well enough to stay with a team as talented as Tufts."

The loss, coupled with Bates' road victory over Williams the same night, dropped the Panthers a game behind the Bobcats in the standings, and set up a must-win duel at Pe-pin. Making matters even more difficult for the Panthers, Johnson's concussion from the night before proved serious enough to keep her out of Saturday's lineup.

But putting the previous night's loss and the loss of their leading scorer behind them, the Panthers attacked early and often on Saturday, using a stifling defense to take a five-point lead at the half.

However, brining back nightmares of the night before, Bates used a 15-4 run to open the second-half to wrest back the lead, and go up 33-26 with a little over 10 minutes left. But, the Panthers caught fire, using a 9-0 run, including five points from Ashley Barron '09, to jump out to a lead they would never relinquish. Thwarting two last-ditch efforts by Bates, the Panthers were able to hold on and secure the 42-41 victory.

Middlebury had a much better afternoon from the field, hitting a third of their shots, and holding the Bobcats to less than 15 percent from behind the three-point line.

Barron, who took over the point guard

duties with Johnson out of the lineup, led the squad with 10 points and seven rebounds, while Kaitlyn Fallon '10 added four boards and four points on 2-of-3 shooting.

"Saturday's game was a true team effort," said tri-captain Katie Fisher '08, who finished with seven points. "From an injured player offering key advice, to typically quiet players stepping their game up, this was a great win. It pret-

ty much secured our going to the playoffs, and it gives us a confident swagger heading into this weekend's games."

The Panthers finish up their regular season schedule with contests at Wesleyan and Connecticut College on Feb. 15 and 16. Barring any unforeseen complications, Johnson has been cleared to play and should start in the backcourt for both of the games.

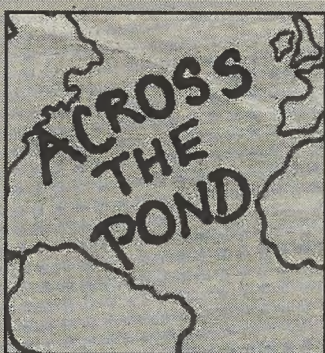


Jeff Patterson

Tri-captain Lani Young '08 gets a standing ovation from her teammates, when she was honored before the game on Senior Day, Feb. 9, along with Katie Fisher '08 and Jennifer Kelleher '08.

Jeff Patterson

Questions of the week	Peter Baumann	James Kerrigan	Simon Keyes	Jeff Patterson
What seed will the women's basketball team get for the NESCAC tournament?	FIFTH They'll go 2-0 this weekend and lock up that five seed.	SIXTH With the head-to-head tiebreaker in Middlebury's favor, the Panthers will beat Bates for the sixth spot.	SIXTH Middlebury will take their momentum from the Bates game right into the sixth slot.	SIXTH My sixth sense tells me that this is right.
Will the men's basketball team have more steals than Wesleyan on Friday?	YES Jeff did the research, so I'll just piggy-back off his answer.	NO Even Jeff's "By The Numbers" has been wrong sometimes. Middlebury will get more points off turnovers, though, and win easily.	YES Hard to refute the evidence Jeff has mined.	YES The Panthers have a +41 steals ratio, while the Cardinals have one of -20 (roughly the temperature it will be on Friday night).
Will men's hockey score more than eight goals total against UMass-Boston and Babson?	YES Please, guys ... I need this one!	YES The offense is much more productive when school is in session.	YES Men's hockey always seems to raise its level of play as the postseason nears.	YES UMass-Boston is on a six-game losing skid, where they lost to Skidmore (6-13-2) of all teams.
Who will win the 2008 NBA Slam Dunk Contest?	JAMARIO MOON Howard got robbed last year, but you really think I'm going to vote against the former Globetrotter?	GERALD GREEN I'd love to see the former Celtic duplicate Jordan's feat of winning back-to-back contests.	DWIGHT HOWARD I hear this year he is going to place an entire Fathead poster of himself on the backboard.	RUDY GAY Rudy ... Rudy ... Rudy ... Rudy ... Rudy ... Rudy ... Rudy ... Rudy ... Rudy ... Rudy ... Rudy ... Rudy ...
Who will be the MVP of the NBA All-Star game?	KOBE BRYANT The league's best offensive player will shine in the league's most offensive game.	DWAYNE WADE With some offensive weapons nearby, Wade will make things look easy in the Big Easy.	CHRIS PAUL Not since Pistol Pete Maravich has anyone made basketball in New Orleans matter.	LeBRONze JAMES With his really strong Cavs, he can jump real high.
Career Record	18-22 (.450)	42-48 (.467)	46-53 (.465)	60-68 (.469)



by Adam Clayton

In today's globalized world, there is seemingly nothing that can't be done cheaper, quicker or better somewhere else. Profit-maximizing companies scour the world looking for the best places to make and market their products. Apparently, sports teams are no exception. Hidden under a veneer of passion and loyalty, most decisions made by major sports teams are monetary ones. Nowadays, with fan bases reaching across the planet, the decisions made by club executives have to take into account the global demand their success has engendered. Seventy-five percent of Manchester United fans are in Asia, while any top team's Web site is usually available in three or four languages. Players sometimes get brought in more for their exotic name than for their playing ability, the illusion of such a move being a football decision often discarded altogether.

Such was the case when the Premier League proposed recently, with little consultation or fan-fare, the idea of tacking on an extra game to an already crowded schedule, one that would be played thousands of miles from either team's stadium but could nevertheless determine the outcome of an entire season. American football already broke boundaries by playing in London, and it is likely basketball and baseball will follow its lead in the near future. Chief executive of the F.A. Premier League, Richard Scudamore, claiming "[the premiership] competes in an entertainment industry," believes this move is good for the prosperity of England's domestic football clubs, as if Chelsea playing Arsenal in Beijing was akin to a Britney Spears performance.

But English football is not just entertainment, Dick. For many people it engenders a stronger sense of identity and pride than race, social status or nationality ever will. Football and politics have been intrinsically linked for centuries, causing wars and uniting populations from social unrest. Dictators such as Franco saw football as a pillar of their power, as well as a potential threat if not manipulated correctly. To denigrate football in this way is to overlook the passion and dedication seen week in and week out around the world, both from the players and the fans who invest time and money to support their team. Imagine a Newcastle fan attending every game, braving the most hostile receptions around England, only to find himself watching the culmination of his team's efforts at six in the morning, struggling to understand the Portuguese or Japanese chanting emanating around the stadium. Such a proposal would be comical if it didn't seem like an eventuality.

If Scudamore insists on taking his cues from American football, why not play rock music and create cartoonish mascots to parade around at half time? The motive of this is certainly not to give fans the opportunity to watch their idols. The premiership can't even be watched by 1.4 billion people in China because only 20,000 can afford the \$100 subscription that pay-per-view TV brought about last season, so they sadly watch Italians and Germans instead. Football is already a domestic fixture in every country around the world, and it will be to the detriment of their leagues if Scudamore gets his way. If profits have to be pursued at the expense of pride and the sanctity of what's right, English football will end up just like that other model of the entertainment industry — Britney Spears — bloated and whoring itself out to whoever hasn't moved on, a shadow of its former great self.

Alpine squad tames Stowe's "Hayride"

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

in which Tim Reynolds '09 won gold.

The Nordic team was led on the women's side by Alexa Turzian '11, who finished fourth in the 10K classic race (34:09) and seventh in the freestyle sprint held at Stowe's Trapp Family Lodge. For the men, it was Reynolds and his classmate Simi Hamilton '09 — who placed third in the 10K classic — who carried the load.

The alpine team showed off their brawn and skill — taking on Stowe's fearsome "Hayride" trail — a pitch with as much fall-away as it has vertical drop. Lindsay Kraft '11 was Middlebury's top finisher in the women's giant slalom (GS) race, placing second overall, followed by Tucker Vest-Burton '09, who finished eighth. Vest-Burton described the races at Stowe Mountain as, "one of the greatest highlights of [her] season, if not [her] entire college racing career." Having not won a single carnival during her three years at Middlebury, she described the women's team's voracity to win as something of a saving grace.

"Both the men and the women's teams really knew what they had to do to win the carnival," she said. "The women had to step it up and the men had to tone it down and bring in some solid finishes."

For the men's team, Andrew Wagner '09 led the way in the GS, earning seventh place. Alec Tarberry '08 and Joey Swensson '08 captured ninth and 11th places, respectively. Clayton Reed '08 led the pack in the slalom, placing seventh, while Tarberry finished just behind him in eighth, tailed closely by Wagner in ninth.

Standing in a huddle at the bottom of the pitch, members of the team waited for the final calculations to determine their standing. Both relieved and delighted, they learned that their efforts had earned them the carnival's combined alpine and Nordic title.

The following weekend of Feb. 8 also proved fruitful for the Panthers, who finished

second at Dartmouth's carnival. Unsurprisingly, Dartmouth captured first place on their home hill with a collective 725 points, followed by Middlebury (697), UVM (664) and UNH (647).

Each weekend, the team competed with Dartmouth for the overall win. While UVM has historically been Middlebury's bigger rival, this season it has seen Dartmouth as a greater potential threat, as dual strength from both the Nordic and alpine squads create a collective team with tremendous talent.

Upon reflection of the season thus far, both Vest-Burton and Wagner see the potential to consistently beat 'The Big Green' as a "do-

able task." They do not view Dartmouth's recent dominance as a result of superior talent, but rather as a reflection of circumstance, consistency and just a little bit of luck.

Ski team fans are hoping to see that luck strike twice with this weekend's upcoming carnival at Williams' Jimminy Peak, and then again shortly thereafter, when the competition takes place at Middlebury's own Snow Bowl on the weekend of Feb. 22.



File Photo/Jeff Patterson

Dorothy Muirhead '08 finished 24th in the slalom at the U.V.M. Carnival — one of four Panthers in the top 30.

Sometimes, the best defense is a good offense

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

Riding high off of their success at Williams, the Panthers geared up to face a non-conference opponent on Feb. 9. Skating cautiously around each other throughout the first period, neither team made it onto the scoreboard within the first 20 minutes of the game. After gaining confidence in their own offense,

the Panthers uncovered their talent in the second frame with the game's first goal by Jessica Bennett '10, which was assisted by Marjie Billings '10, 9:48 into the period.

A little over two minutes later, Randi Dumont '09 netted a follow-up goal in a tried-and-true backdoor play with the help of Molly Vitt '09. The Neumann Knights began to see

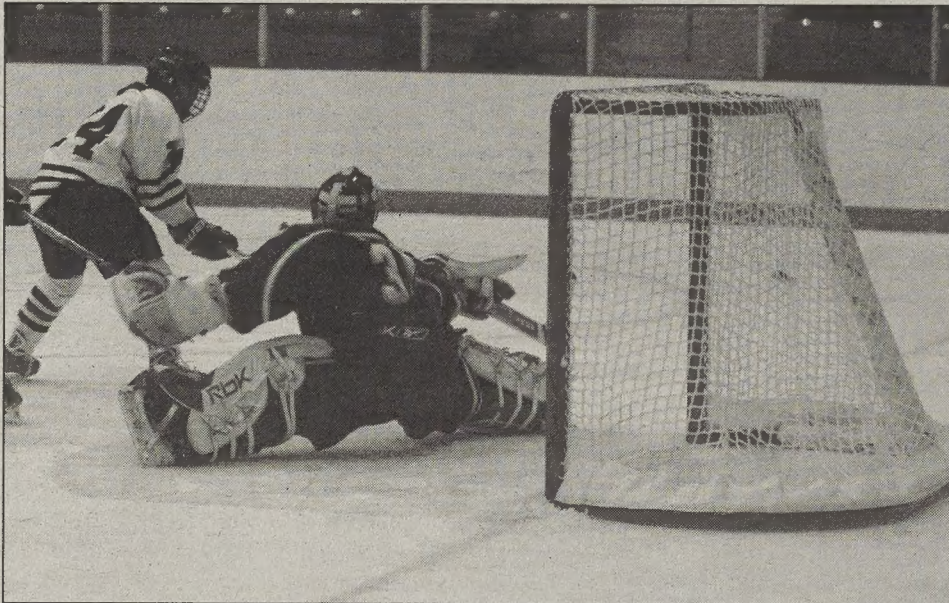
the skills of which their coach had forewarned them — and the Panthers were just getting started.

Less than halfway into the second period, defenseman Lacey Farrell '08 got in on the action with a pair of back-to-back goals within a little over one minute. Farrell scored the first goal with assistance from co-captain Karen Levin '08 and Bennett. The second came on the power play from co-captain Tania Kenny '08 and Erika Nakamura '09.

Shortly after Farrell's triumphant performance, Neumann head coach Matt Kennedy called a timeout at 14:56 in an attempt to refocus his players so they could strike back at the rallying Panthers. As soon as the players resumed their positions on the ice, however, Middlebury first-year Anna McNally served the Knights with a well-executed goal to bring the score to 5-0. It was McNally's 15th goal of her inaugural collegiate season.

The Neumann skaters remained in an offensive rut throughout the rest of the third period, getting only two shots on goaltender Lexi Bloom '11, while Vitt scored with 10 minutes remaining in the game to finish off the game's scoring.

"We hadn't seen Neumann yet this year, so we were not sure what to expect," said Celino. "We got a good effort from everyone on the team and ended up with a solid win."



Jeff Patterson

Farrell '08 scored her second goal via the backhand, in almost the same exact spot where she got her first. This goal was initiated by the passing of Tania Kenny '08 and Erika Nakamura '09.

me and my: Middlebury sports sibling



KEVIN KELLEHER '10 — "Our father, Kevin '80, played basketball when he attended Midd. He played small forward, similar to the position I play."



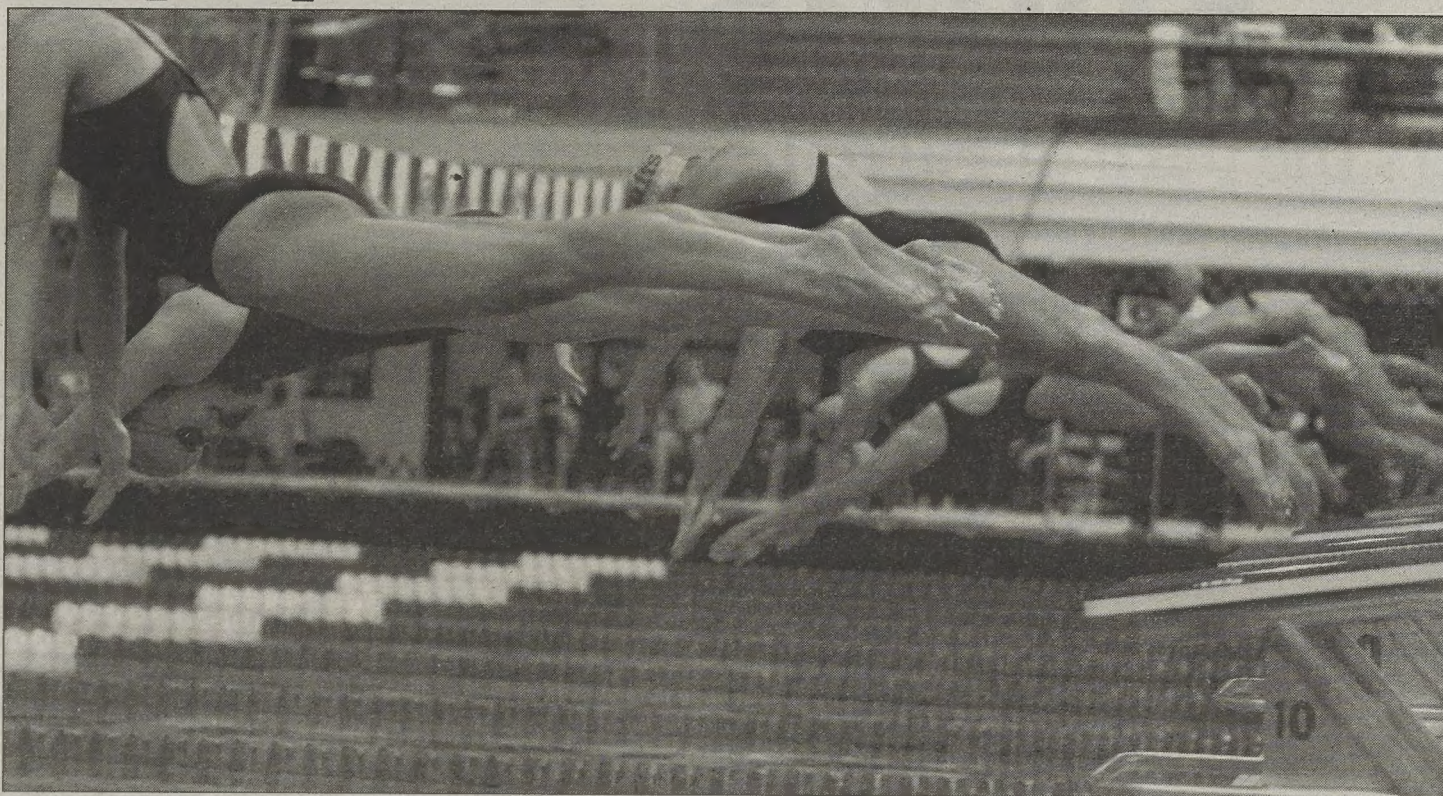
JENNIFER KELLEHER '08 — "We go to each others' games and give each other advice afterward. We're also on similar schedules so we see each other more than we do out of season."



JARED BEAN '09 — When asked who was faster, him or his younger sister Whitney: "I am ... at least I better be."



WHITNEY BEAN '10 — When asked if she was ever taller than her brother: "No, but then again he never steps off his pedestal."



Katie Remington '10 (second from left) gets a good start off of the block at the Middlebury Invitational on Saturday, Feb. 9, with this dive. Jeff Patterson

Swimmers were dynamite at Midd. Invite

By Jake Cohen
STAFF WRITER

After a tough loss to Williams on Feb. 2, the Middlebury men's and women's swim teams rallied the troops and put on some top-notch performances at their invitational the following weekend. The meet was not a team event but a series of individual races. As such, it provided the Panthers the opportunity to mix up their lineup and allowed swimmers to swim different events than the norm as they prepared for the upcoming NESCAC championships.

"It is a great checkpoint," said Katie Remington '10. "It's similar to NESCACs because it's a bunch of different teams. It's a trial run."

For those swimmers already confident in their times, this weekend provided the chance to try new events — a move that was particularly fun for seniors. As a matter of fact, this weekend was dubbed Senior Day and commemorated four years of hard work from all 19 veterans.

The unquestioned peak performer of the weekend was Pam Chatikavanij '08, who won both the 50-yard and 100-yard freestyle events.

"She has been swimming unbelievably well this year and did it again," said tri-captain Robbie Burton '08. "She swam incredibly."

First-year Emily MacDonald also improved on her times by winning the 100-yard fly. Other strong female performers were Sara

Cowie '08, who won the 1,000-yard freestyle and Katie Soja '10 who took first place in the 200-yard butterfly.

The Panthers flaunted their team's depth by taking all the podium positions of the latter event, even without a performance from Ross, their best butterfly swimmer. Ross turned plenty of heads in the Williams

"The women are shooting for first in NESCACs and have the depth [to do it]," said Burton.

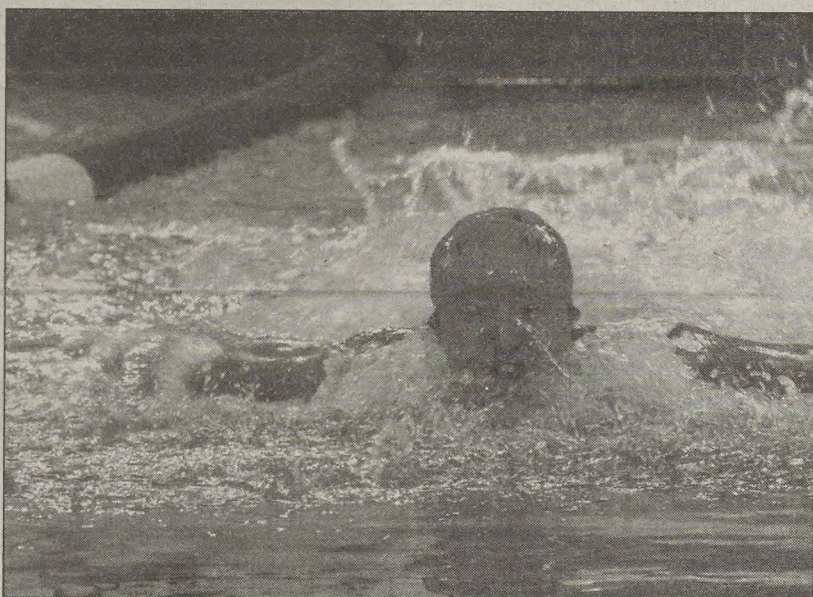
The men also swam well and saw a particularly good performance from Zach Woods '09. He won both the 100- and 200-yard backstroke events, finishing with his best times of the season. Kevin O'Rourke '09 claimed top place on the podium in the 500-yard freestyle event.

The men's 400-yard freestyle relay team set its fastest time of the year and enjoyed a particularly impressive leg from anchor Schuyler Beeman '10.

Now begins the period of tapering. It is a perennial swim tradition to slow the training regiment and rest in order to save up much-needed energy for the big final meet. Some swimmers have even started to shave their entire bodies.

"Everybody is going to rest and get psyched for the rest of the season," said Burton.

This meet marks the beginning of the end, which can be a sad time for some, but an exciting time for all. Watch for a solid finish from both the men's and women's teams at the NESCACs. The women travel to Wesleyan Feb. 22-24 to take on the field, while the men host the tournament at home on Feb. 29-March 2.



Alyssa Ha '11 took third in the 200-yard butterfly, as part of a Panther podium sweep. Jeff Patterson

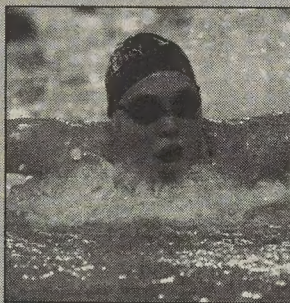
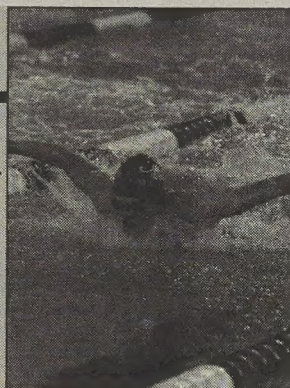
meet the weekend before, when she made the NCAA "A" cut by over a quarter of a second and was a second off of her own NESCAC record.

Middlebury also crowned Catherine Suppan '09 the 200-yard breaststroke champion and Ross the queen of the 500-yard free — an event she rarely swims.



The Great Eight

Rank	Last	Team	Cap's Comments...
1	5	Swimming & Diving (6-2)	Not to cause a splash, but in honor of Valentine's Day, let's give the swimmers some love and the number one spot after their invitational.
2	4	Skiing	After a strong start, they prepare for our carnival — providing Old Chapel does not cancel it first.
3	2	M. Basketball (17-5)	Already matched school record of 17 victories — now they need to figure out how to match up with Amherst in a few weeks.
4	3	W. Hockey (16-2-2)	Speaking of 17, that was their unbeaten streak heading into Tuesday's loss at Plattsburgh.
5	1	M. Hockey (14-4-2)	Hadn't been shut out at home since the first year of the Reagan Administration.
6	7	W. Basketball (12-10)	Swing through Connecticut before the NESCAC tournament. Let's hope the Constitution State treats the Panther women better than it did Hillary.
7	6	Squash	With both teams hovering near the .500 mark, they suffer the indignation of being grouped into one gender-neutral entity.
8	-	Indoor Track	The indoor season has begun, which is a shame because ice pole vaulting would be fun to watch.



Jeff Patterson

All season long members of the swim teams have been floating like butterflies and stinging like bees. For their efforts they have been awarded the week's top spot.

sportsbriefs

by Jeb Burchenal, Staff Writer

Anna McNally '11 earns Player of the Week honors

Anna McNally, a first-year on the Middlebury College women's hockey team, was named the NESCAC Player of the Week. She scored three goals and added three assists in the Panther's two victories last week. In the first game, she played a part in five of the seven goals against rival Williams. She tallied two goals and three assists in the game. On Saturday, she scored a goal as the Panthers rolled past Neumann. McNally, a St. Paul, Minn. native, is the top rookie scorer in the conference with 15 goals and 13 assists in 17 games this season.



Jeff Patterson

Anna McNally '11 scored three goals and added three assists in her two games last week.

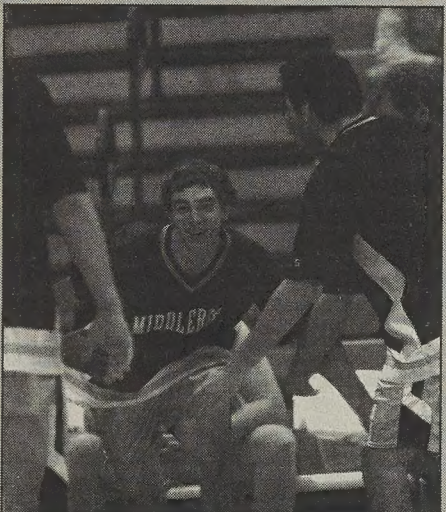
Men's basketball makes history with 17th victory

Men's basketball looked to surpass its win total from last year as they played back-to-back games at Tufts and Bates last week. Classmates Ben Rudin '09 and Aaron Smith '09 led the charge for the Panthers as they controlled the Jumbos from the opening tip. The Jumbos got it to within five (70-65) with four minutes to go, but two three-pointers by Harris and good free-throw shooting down the stretch sealed the win for the Panthers. The Panthers as a team were 8-for-13 from downtown.

Rudin led all scorers with 17 points, Smith recorded a double-double with 16 points and 14 boards, Andrew Harris '08 dropped 14 points and Tim Edwards '10 added 11 points.

The men left their mark on school history as the first Middlebury men's basketball team to win 17 games as they rolled over Bates 92-71 on the road. The Panthers shot an astounding 57.1 percent from the field and 64 percent from behind the arc. Middlebury attacked Bates with a Phoenix Suns-esque tempo that led to a 49-37 halftime lead.

Ashton Coghlan '11 again showed that being a rookie does not mean staying out of the spotlight by tying for the team lead with 23 points. With Coghlan and Harris coming off the bench for the Panthers, Middlebury had a 46-5 advantage in bench points for the game.



File Photo/Jeff Patterson

After missing seven games with a wrist injury, co-captain Andrew Harris '08 scored 15 points in a 92-71 win on the road over Bates.

Neumann suffers the peril of Farrell

Senior defenseman scores two goals in 1:14 span

By Emma Gardner
STAFF WRITER

In a showdown between the nation's top two teams, Plattsburgh — led by junior Danielle Blanchard — upset the top-ranked Panthers on Tuesday, Feb. 12 at Stafford Arena in

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Plattsburgh	3
Middlebury	0

Plattsburgh, N.Y. Blanchard has had a hand in 14 of the Cardinals' 17

goals against Middlebury in the last two seasons, during which Plattsburgh has won all five contests, including last year's national championship game.

Middlebury is not alone in struggling to defend Plattsburgh's captain — Blanchard leads the country in scoring with 23 goals and 17 assists — though, this defeat ended the Panther's 17-game unbeaten streak.

Before the loss, Middlebury took on 10 days of rigorous training over Feb. Break. It produced great

results, with two solid wins — a 7-1 victory at Lansing Chapman Rink against Williams on Feb. 6 and a 6-0 shutout of Neumann College on Feb. 9.

With stellar performances from goaltenders Lani Wright '10 and Emma Lennon '11, the win against Williams "helped solidify our standing in the NESCAC," said assistant captain Annmarie Cellino '09. "Williams has always been a tough team to play."

While Williams is assuredly an established rival, spectators of that day's game might have guessed otherwise from the way the Panthers dominated the Ephs to the end of the game. The difference in shots on goal was almost three-fold — Middlebury had 72, Williams 25.

SEE SOMETIMES, PAGE 22



Jeff Patterson

Plattsburgh's Danielle Blanchard has been a Panther-killer her entire career. Her game-winner (above) on Tuesday night helped the Cardinals upset Middlebury.



Jeff Patterson

Lacey Farrell '08 receives a pass from Karen Levin '08 before scoring the first of her two second-period goals against Neumann College on Feb. 9.

Ski team was top dog at Catamount carnival

By Anna Furney
STAFF WRITER

While the rest of Middlebury's student body was off tanning on beaches and by coastlines for the duration of Feb. Break, the Middlebury ski team stayed along the Eastern seaboard. Its two weekend trips to Stowe and to Dartmouth for the University of Vermont (UVM) and Dartmouth College winter carnivals were just as fun, though, as the Panthers took home their first carnival victory in over five years.

The weekend of Feb. 1 ended

up being a date to celebrate, as the alpine and Nordic teams' combined results ensured the Panthers a cumulative carnival win over the UVM Catamounts and Dartmouth's 'Big Green.' The Panthers finished with 628 points, followed by UVM (624.5), Dartmouth (604) and University of New Hampshire (513). Middlebury captured second place in six of the eight events, winning the women's slalom and placing third in the men's freestyle sprints, an event

SEE ALPINE SQUAD, PAGE 22

Late 9-0 run hands Bates its ninth loss

By Peter Baumann

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

With the NESCAC championship right around the corner, the women's basketball team split a crucial two-game homestand on Feb. 11 and 12. The Panthers fell to Tufts, before rallying late to earn a much-needed victory over Bates the following day.

NESCAC STANDINGS

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL AS OF FEB. 14

Bowdoin	6-1
Amherst	6-2
Tufts	5-2
Wesleyan	5-2
Williams	5-2
Bates	3-4
Middlebury	3-4
Colby	2-5
Trinity	1-7
Conn. College	0-7

The women entered the weekend tied for fifth in the league with a similar league-record to Bates, but were looking up at the second-place Jumbos. Undaunted by Tufts' superior record, the Panthers held strong during a first half that saw 10 lead changes, before entering the locker room down three. But the Jumbos



Jeff Patterson

In hindsight, Katherine Gura's '10 first-half basket — an eight-foot jump-shot from the baseline — was the difference in Middlebury's 42-41 win.

exploded out of the gate in the second half, sprinting to a 19-point lead halfway through the second frame. Middlebury tried to claw back, but in the end came up short, dropping the contest 61-46.

The Panthers shot less than 30 percent from the field, including going only 3-of-19 from behind the arc. Tri-captain Lani Young '08, who

finished with a team-high 13 points, was the only starter to shoot over 50 percent. The bench provided little relief, finishing with only eight points, compared to 19 from their counterparts from Medford.

"I think our low shooting percentage really hurt us in the long run,"

SEE BARRON, SANCHEZ, PAGE 20



CHECK, PLEASE

Bryan Curran '11 flips Trinity Bantam Jake Gaffey helmet-over-skates with this open-ice check on Feb. 2, in Hartford, Conn. How? "It's pretty much instinctual," said Curran. "At the last second he sees you and his first reaction is to stand straight up. You can catch him off-guard and go low to flip him over. It feels pretty good to look back and see the guy lying on his back."



Jeff Patterson

this week in sports

Inside the Locker Room:
Gordon McMorris '08.5
Who knows the squash star better? page 21



games to watch
Men's basketball vs. Wesleyan, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m.
Women's hockey vs. Amherst, Feb. 16 at 3 p.m.



Men's hockey wins by three, loses by three
John Sullivan '10 scored two goals vs. St. Mike's, page 20